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REGULAR



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The launch of the Ernest Bazin has aroused to new activity the public interest in this curious invention of a roller vessel. The most diverse opinions are expressed

and it cannot be expected that they should be used for freight. The sole object in adopting this model is to increase speed. The claim made is that 30 to 35 knots an hour can be realized, and with a very small expenditure



THE ERNEST BAZIN.

as to the value of the idea, and its practical applications in case the vessel should succeed.

We give here an illustration of the Ernest Bazin as she appeared after launching. It is obvious that boats of this character can never furnish much cargo room,

of power. If roller vessels could be used in war, it would only be as dispatch boats or cruisers carrying very light artillery. M. Bazin, the inventor, believes that he can easily obtain 30 knots with a vessel 426 feet in length (130 meters), having horse-power not to exceed

8,000 or 10,000. With this speed the passage from New York to Queenstown could be made in 100 hours, with the expenditure of 800 tons of coal.

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It is already settled that a large packet boat, having the necessary solidity, can be built on the roller model. The sole question appears to be as to the possibility of obtaining the promised speed. The "Journal de la Marine" presents a mathematical calculation, by M. Parot, Engineer of Arts and Manufactures, which, it says, is as simple as it is elegant. It tends to show that M. Bazin is justified in his expectations of great speed. The mathematical theory of the rolling vessel demonstrates analytically the remarkable results produced by such rotation, and the striking modifications in the motion of floating bodies resulting from this method of progression. M. Bazin's conclusions are the result of a long series of ingenious experiments and appear to have a foundation in scientific demonstration. To secure speed, however, very large rollers are required, and it is not determined whether these can be made to work at sea. The present vessel is simply experimental and is designed for the study of the novel problems involved in this system of rotary motion. Everything about the vessel is so new that past experience in navigation is of no avail to determine the questions involved.

The young gentlemen of the ranks, who recently completed their examinations for commissions at Fort Leavenworth, have now all left there for their respective posts, to there await whatever the fates may have in store for them, which, we hope, will be the fruition of their laudable endeavors.



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PROSPECTS FOR SERVICE LEGISLATION.

A careful canvass of the Senate and House indicates that the chances of service legislation other than that contained in appropriation bills, are very slim. Representative Hull, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, intends to secure action by his committee before the end of the session on the Lamont organization measure. Mr. Hull, however, is not altogether satisfied with one section of this measure, and intends to have it altered. He understands that the measure has a number of enemies in the Senate, and in any event says that there is not much hope for its passage by the House.

"The Military Affairs Committee," Mr. Hull said to the "Journal" correspondent, "is hard at work with the appropriation bills, and we expect that they will be ready for report before Christmas. We will then take up the personnel subject and give it earnest attention. The committee had its first meeting of the session on Tuesday last and the following day Gen. Sawtelle, Q. M. Gen., Paymr. Gen. Stanton and Gen. Flagler, chief of Ordnance, appeared and explained the estimates they submitted for the expenses of their Departments during the next fiscal year. The personnel bill that will come up before the committee will be the measure submitted by Secretary Lamont. I am glad to learn that the infantry officers will support this bill. I have heard a good many objections to section 6 of the measure and am opposed to it myself. I believe that promotion should be based on length of service, instead of as provided by the bill, and will bring this point up before the committee when the personnel subject is given consideration. While I will do all I can for personnel reorganization in the House, I regard the chances of the passage of the bill as rather slim; in fact, there is not much chance for any legislation other than that included in the appropriation bills. I have not sounded the Senate in regard to the matter and cannot, therefore, say what its temper is on this point. If the measure reviving the grade of Lieutenant General for the benefit of Maj. Gen. Miles comes before the House, I will do all I can to secure favorable action. I do not believe, however, that Gen. Miles is anxious for action during this Administration. President Cleveland might veto a bill in his interest. He would, of course, like to see the House pass the measure, as it would be in the nature of an endorsement of his desire and at the same time a high compliment to him. I believe the friends of Gen. Miles would rather the bill came up during the next Administration, when it would have a better chance of securing executive approval."

Senator Hawley says that the Army reorganization bill has no chance whatever in the Senate, but he believes that the Militia bill will be passed. The chances for this bill are also good in the House, but are not such that it can be said with any positiveness that it will be presented to the President for approval. There are a number of private bills on the Senate and House calendars for the relief of officers of the Army and Navy, and there is every probability that some of these will go through. No expectation is entertained that a Navy reorganization measure will be passed; in fact, it is not believed that it will be brought before the House accompanied by a report from the committee. A good deal of apathy is manifested by the members of the Naval Committee in connection with this subject and this indifference is also apparent among members of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs. He regards the prospects of legislation for the personnel as dubious, though he has returned to Washington with the intention of making an earnest fight for the military service. He is engaged in preparing reports upon Senate bills 2,202 and 2,480 for the reorganization of the line of the Army and to promote the efficiency of the militia, respectively, and expects to submit them in the course of a few weeks.

"I don't think much of the chances for the passage of the Army reorganization bill," Gen. Hawley said, "but I believe that the militia measure concerning which I shall soon submit a report, has an excellent show of being passed by the Senate. It is my intention to sound the House in regard to the latter bill with a view of ascertaining what that body will do with it when it is sent over from the Upper House."

"I understand, Senator, that the infantry officers are preparing a petition urging the passage of the Lamont reorganization bill."

"It will do no good to present such a petition; at least it will have no effect in the matter of expediting the passage of that measure. The bill I intend particularly to devote my attention to is that relating to the arming of the National Guard with the Springfield rifle now being discarded by the regular Army. I don't see any reason for objection to this measure. Just as soon as I have an opportunity, it is my intention to see Representative Curtis and talk to him with a view to securing the passage of the bill through the House."

The service committees of the two Houses of Congress will soon be hard at work. The House Military Affairs Committee has already started in on the Army appropriation bill, and is making excellent progress. The first meeting was held on Tuesday. It is the expectation of the committee that his bill will be reported to the House before Christmas and the personal reorganization bill presented by Secretary Lamont will then be given consideration.

The New York Commandery of the Loyal Legion held its quarterly meeting and dinner at Delmonico's on the evening of Dec. 2, the occasion being an unusually pleasant one. Gen. Horace Porter presided, Major George Loring Porter, formerly Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army, read a paper entitled: "The Tragedy of the Nation," and several applications for membership were acted upon. The presiding officer, Gen. Porter, was in his happiest

vein, and related several amusing incidents. One was that Gen. D. E. Sickles, the one-legged veteran, while out West recently, while addressing a large meeting of old soldiers, said: "Altgeld! Altgeld! Will some one lend me a leg to kick Altgeld with?" Whereupon the six thousand offered him twelve thousand legs with which to kick Altgeld. Another story was of a colporteur traveling for a temperance society. He said that in Arkansas he had the softest snap he had ever had. Whenever he offered a man there a temperance tract he held out a bottle in one hand and a pistol in the other, and told him to choose, and to choose sudden between the contents of the two. "I haven't had to pay for a drink since I came here," added the temperance advocate."

Gen. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, has awarded to G. Snowden Andrews and Henry T. Douglass, of Baltimore, Md., the contract for the construction of a wharf and two gun emplacements at Sheridan Point, Va., at their bid of \$58,683.96. Sheridan Point is on the Potomac River directly opposite Fort Washington, Md., and the placing of a battery there is in execution of the general project for the defense of the national capital. The work at the points named is in charge of Lieut. Morrow, Maj. Allen's assistant, and has progressed very rapidly. At Fort Washington two emplacements are completed, and another is in good fighting condition, lacking only the trimmings to be completed. Two 10-inch guns are now in process of mounting, and a third is on its way to the fort. They are to be mounted on disappearing carriages. The main battery at Sheridan Point will consist of at least three high-power guns, and the combined batteries will guard the river most effectually against any ordinary fleet of warships. Under the contract with Andrews & Douglass the emplacements and wharf at Sheridan Point are to be completed by Sept. 1, 1897.

BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS.

The calendars of the two Houses of Congress contain many measures of interest to the Army and Navy. In the Senate the first naval measure to be called up is that authorizing the construction of a dry dock at Key West, Fla. Senator Squire's bill (Sen. 1,159) to provide for fortifications and other seacoast defenses, is also expected to meet early consideration. The other military measures in the Senate are as follows:

Sen. 1,404: Authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to enlist additional men for service in the United States Navy; Sen. 2,570, to readjustment of the accounts of Army officers who were graduates; Sen. 1,731, for the relief of Maj. William M. Maynadier; Sen. 2,338, for the relief of Joshua Bishon, U. S. N.; Sen. 2,215, for the relief of Bvt. Brig. Gen. Henry L. Abbot, U. S. A.

H. R. 3,179, to provide for the appointment by brevet of active or retired officers of the U. S. Army; Sen. 1,155, for the relief of Lieut. Jerome E. Morse, U. S. N.; Sen. 1,830 and H. R. 4,445, for the construction of a military road from Fort Washakie, Wyo., to the mouth of the Buffalo Fork, of the Snake River; Sen. 162, for the erection of a monument and statue of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant; Sen. 1,350, to make Commo. William P. McCann, of the Navy, a Rear Admiral on the retired list; Sen. 2,009, to simplify the system of making sales in the Subsistence Department to officers and enlisted men of the Army; Sen. 2,849, to promote the efficiency of the militia; Sen. 2,202, to reorganize the line of the Army, etc.; and H. R. 5,400, to increase the pension of the widow of George B. Bacon, U. S. N.

Among the bills to be considered by the House is H. R. 6,120, introduced by Mr. Bennett, to promote the efficiency of the Revenue Cutter Service. Other bills of interest are as follows:

H. R. 4,339: To establish a National Military Park to commemorate the campaign, siege and defense of Vicksburg.

H. R. 4,575: To amend chapter 67 vol. 23 of the Statutes at Large of the United States.

H. R. 1,703: To establish a military post at Des Moines, Ia.

H. R. 6,781: To extend the national boulevard at Springfield, Mo.

H. R. 7,468: A bill to improve Jefferson Barracks.

S. 665: To confer the rank of 1st Lieutenant of infantry upon the director of gymnastics and instructor in swordsmanship at the U. S. Military Academy.

H. R. 3,965: Making an appropriation for duplicating machinery at the Springfield Armory.

H. J. R. 90: To revive the grade of Lieutenant General.

H. R. 3,012: To fix the pay, allowances, tenure of office and rank of the veterinary surgeons.

H. R. 241: To appoint a committee of five members to investigate and report to the House upon the management of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers at Leavenworth, Kan.

S. 295: Making an appropriation for the improvement of the road to the national cemetery near Pensacola, Fla.

S. J. R.: Authorizing the issue of duplicate medals.

H. R. 2,271: To authorize a retired list for enlisted men and appointed petty officers of the U. S. Navy.

S. 2,420: To regulate the pay of non-commissioned officers in the Army.

H. R. 417: To investigate the charge of violation of Civil Service laws at the New York Navy Yard.

H. J. R. 6: Authorizing the Secretary of War to loan ordnance stores for military instruction in high schools.

H. R. 3,832: To provide for the detail of officers of the Army and Navy to assist in military instruction in the State normal schools and in the public schools.

H. R. 989: To amend the military record of Capt. Thomas M. Elliott.

H. R. 9,289: To amend an act entitled "An act to promote the administration of justice in the Army," approved Oct. 1, 1890.

H. R. 71: For the relief of Capt. Francis A. Beuter.

H. R. 1,567: To place Col. David Stewart Gordon, 6th U. S. Cav., a Brigadier General on the retired list of the U. S. Army.

S. 1,106: To place Lieut. Col. and Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alexander Stewart Webb on the retired list of the U. S. Army.

S. 641: To promote Commo. Louis C. Sartori to be a Rear Admiral on the retired list, in accordance with his original position on the Navy Register.

S. 1,676: Authorizing Rear Adm. W. A. Kirkland to accept a gold box presented to him by the Emperor of Germany.

S. R. 107: To authorize Prof. Simon Newcomb, U. S. N., and Prof. Asaph Hale, U. S. N., to accept decorations.

S. 2,068: To grant a pension to the widow of Chief Engr. Sewell, U. S. N.

S. 550: For the relief of Bvt. Col. Thos. P. O'Reilly.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Cleveland sent his annual message to Congress on Monday. He begins with a discussion of foreign affairs, speaking of the situation in Turkey as showing no mitigation. While none of our citizens in Turkey have thus far been killed or wounded, though often in the midst of dreadful scenes of danger, their safety in the future is by no means assured. Several naval vessels are stationed in the Mediterranean as a measure of caution and to furnish all possible relief and refuge in case of emergency. It is difficult to perceive that any progress has been made in the pacification of Cuba. Spain has not yet re-established her authority, and the insurgents have not made good their title to be regarded as an independent State. This Government intimated to Spain some months ago that if a satisfactory measure of home rule were tendered the Cuban insurgents and would be accepted by them upon a guarantee of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find some way to furnish such guarantee. It cannot reasonably be assumed that the hitherto expectant attitude of the United States will be indefinitely maintained. With the exception of the larger towns and their immediate suburbs, the entire country is either given over to anarchy or is subject to the military occupation of one or the other party. It is reported, indeed, on reliable authority that at the demand of the Commander-in-Chief of the insurgent army the putative Cuban Government has now given up all attempt to exercise its functions, leaving that Government confessedly (what there is the best reason for supposing it always to have been in fact) a Government merely on paper. Spanish garrisons are now being withdrawn from plantations and the rural population required to concentrate itself in the towns. The sure result would seem to be that the industrial value of the island is fast diminishing, and that unless there is a speedy and radical change in existing conditions it will soon disappear altogether.

The spectacle of the ruin of an adjoining country, by nature one of the most fertile and charming on the globe would engage the serious attention of the Government and people of the U. S. in any circumstances. In point of fact, they have a concern with it which is by no means a wholly sentimental or philanthropic character. The Venezuelan question is dismissed with a few words as settled. The arbitration treaty with Great Britain is far advanced. The improvements in the consular service are described. The figures of Government receipts and expenditures are given, and the deficit for the last fiscal year is put at \$25,203,245.70. In discussing the Post Office Department's work the recommendation is made that second-class postage rates be reformed. The total Indian population of the United States is 177,235, according to a census made in 1895, exclusive of those within the State of New York and those comprising the Five Civilized Tribes. It may be said in general terms that in every particular the improvement of the Indians under Government care has been most marked and encouraging. The condition of affairs among the Five Civilized Tribes, who occupy large tracts of land in the Indian Territory, and who have governments of their own, has assumed such an aspect as to render it almost indispensable that there should be an entire change in the relations of these Indians to the general Government. A commission organized and empowered under several recent laws is now negotiating with these Indians for the relinquishment of their courts and the division of their common lands in severality. Progress of Civil Service Reform is said to furnish a cause for the utmost congratulation. The President thinks that the present tariff law will in the near future yield a revenue which, with reasonable economy, will overcome all deficiencies. The retirement of the greenbacks and ultimately of treasury notes is urged. Action against trusts and monopolies is suggested. In closing, the President appeals to Congress for rigid economy. The present discipline and morale of our Army are excellent, and marked progress and efficiency are apparent throughout its entire organization. Changes in methods of administration, the abandonment of unnecessary posts and consequent concentration of troops, and the exercise of care and vigilance by the various officers charged with the responsibility in the expenditure of the appropriations have resulted in reducing to a minimum the cost of maintenance of our military establishment.

During the last year the work of constructing permanent infantry and cavalry posts has been continued at the places heretofore designated. The Secretary of War repeats his recommendation that appropriations for barracks and quarters should more strictly conform to the needs of the service as judged by the Department rather than respond to the wishes and importunities of localities. It is imperative that much of the money provided for such construction should now be allotted to the erection of necessary quarters for the garrisons assigned to the coast defenses, where many men will be needed to properly care for and operate modern guns. It is essential, too, that early provision be made to supply the necessary force of artillery to meet the demands of this service.

The entire Army has now been equipped with the new magazine arms, and wise policy demands that all available public and private resources should be so employed as to provide within a reasonable time a sufficient number to supply the State militia with these modern weapons and provide an ample reserve for any emergency.

The organized militia numbers 112,879 men. The appropriations for its support by the several States approximate \$2,800,000 annually, and \$400,000 is contributed by the General Government. Investigation shows

these troops to be usually well drilled and inspired with much military interest, but in many instances they are so deficient in proper arms and equipment that a sudden call to active duty would find them inadequately prepared for field service. I therefore recommend that prompt measures be taken to remedy this condition, and that every encouragement be given to this deserving body of unpaid and voluntary citizen soldiers, upon whose assistance we must largely rely in time of trouble.

During the last year rapid progress has been made toward the completion of the scheme adopted for the erection and armament of fortifications along our seacoast, while equal progress has been made in providing the material for submarine defense in connection with these works. It is peculiarly gratifying at this time to note the great advance that has been made in this important undertaking since the date of the annual message to the Fifty-third Congress, at the opening of its second session, in December, 1893. This improved situation is largely due to the recent generous response of Congress to the recommendations of the War Department. Thus we shall soon have complete about one-fifth of the comprehensive system, the first step in which was noted in the President's message to Congress, Dec. 4, 1893. When it is understood that a masonry emplacement not only furnishes a platform for the heavy modern high-power gun, but also in every particular serves the purpose and takes the place of the fort of former days, the importance of the work accomplished is better comprehended.

In the hope that the work will be prosecuted with no less vigor in the future, the Secretary of War has submitted an estimate by which, if allowed, there will be provided and either built or building by the end of the next fiscal year such additional guns, mortars, gun carriages and emplacements as will represent not far from one-third of the total work to be done under the plan adopted for our coast defenses—thus affording a prospect that the entire work will be substantially completed within six years. In less time than that, however, we shall have attained a marked degree of security. The experience and results of the past year demonstrate that with a continuation of present careful methods the cost of the remaining work will be much less than the original estimate.

We should always keep in mind that of all forms of military preparation coast defense alone is essentially specific in its nature. While it gives the sense of security due to a consciousness of strength, it is neither the purpose nor the effect of such permanent fortification to involve us in foreign complications, but rather to guarantee us against them. They are not temptation to war, but security against it. Thus they are thoroughly in accord with all the traditions of our National diplomacy.

The construction of vessels for our new Navy has been energetically prosecuted by the present administration upon the general lines previously adopted, the Department having seen no necessity for radical changes in prior methods under which the work was found to be progressing in a manner highly satisfactory. It has been decided, however, to provide in every shipbuilding contract that the builder should pay all trial expenses, and it has also been determined to pay no speed premiums in future contracts. The premiums recently earned and some yet to be decided are features of the contracts made before this conclusion was reached.

It is gratifying to state that our ships and their out-fits are believed to be equal to the best that can be manufactured elsewhere, and that such notable reductions have been made in their cost as to justify the statement that quite a number of vessels are now being constructed at rates as low as those that prevail in European ship yards.

Our manufacturing facilities are at this time ample for all possible naval contingencies. Three of our Government Navy Yards, those at Mare Island, Cal., Norfolk, Va., and Brooklyn, N. Y., are equipped for shipbuilding, our ordnance plant in Washington is equal to any in the world, and at the torpedo station we are successfully making the highest grades of smokeless powder. Three first-class private shipyards, at Newport News, Philadelphia and San Francisco, are building battleships; eleven contractors, situated in the States of Maine, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia and the State of Washington, are constructing gunboats or torpedo boats; two plants are manufacturing large quantities of first-class armor, and American factories are producing automobile torpedoes, powder projectiles, rapid-fire guns and everything else necessary for the complete outfit of naval vessels.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The Secretary of the Navy, in his annual report, refers to the work of naval construction, so happily begun by Mr. Chandler, so wisely extended by and broadened by Mr. Whitney, and continued with marked ability by Mr. Tracy. Despite their energy and ability, not one of the vessels was in commission for active service when the present Administration began its work. Still, our force of cruisers was relatively far in advance, and the policy of the Navy Department has been to build battleships, torpedo-boats and light-draft boats for special service in our own and foreign waters.

Since March 4, 1893, Congress has authorized the completion of the following vessels under contract, to be completed at the dates named.

1896.—Three torpedo-boats of 24.5 knots speed, and 142 tons displacement; two torpedo-boats of 27.5 knots speed, and 182 tons displacement.

1897.—One submarine torpedo-boat, 8 knots, 168 tons; one torpedo-boat, 26 knots, 182 tons; two torpedo-boats, 30 knots, 146 tons; one, 30 knots, 276 tons; two, 22.5 knots, 117 tons; one torpedo-boat, 22.5 knots, 103 tons; two torpedo-boats, 20 knots, 47 tons; two torpedo-boats, 20 knots, 65 tons. In all, sixteen torpedo-boats, with an aggregate of 2,098 tons and 38 tubes, four having two tubes each and the others three. They carry altogether thirty-eight 1-inch R. F. guns.

In 1897 are also to be completed six gunboats of 1,000 tons each, having 12 knots speed and six 4-inch R. F. guns each; in all 24 guns.

In 1898 will be completed the Kearsarge, Kentucky, Illinois, Alabama and Wisconsin, five vessels of 11,250 tons each and having 16 knots speed. Two of these carry four 13-inch B. L. R., four 8-inch B. L. R. and fourteen 5-inch R. F. guns. The other two carry four 13-inch B. L. R. and fourteen 6-inch R. F. guns. This shows a grand total of 65,866 tons. Altogether twenty-eight

vessels have been authorized since March 4, 1893, their displacement, armament, etc., being distributed as follows:

Class.	No. ment.	Total displace- ment Tons.	Aggregate main batteries.	
			B.	L.
Battleships	5	57,600	20	13-in. B. L. R.
			8	8-in. B. L. R.
			42	6-in. R. F. G.
			28	5-in. R. F. G.
Light-draught gunboats	6	6,000	36	4-in. R. F. G.
Torpedo-boats	16	2,098	44	torpedo tubes.
Submarine torpedo-boat	1	168	2	torpedo tubes.
Grand total		28	65,866	

This is a good beginning, but it is not sufficient. During the present Administration there will have been placed in commission 3 first-class and 2 second-class battleships, 2 armored cruisers, 4 double-turreted monitors and 1 harbor defense ram, making a total of 12 new armored vessels, having aggregate displacement of 81,517 tons. In addition to the above-mentioned armored ships, 8 cruisers and 3 gunboats will have received their first commission, making a grand total of 23 vessels, with an aggregate displacement of 118,184 tons, placed in commission during Mr. Cleveland's term of office, this being by far the largest amount of tonnage put in commission during any Presidential administration since 1865.

Since March, 1881, the following tonnage has been authorized, begun or placed in commission:

	Authorized.	Begin.	Commiss.
1881-1885	23,076	12,363	...
1885-1889	67,183	34,814	7,863
1889-1893	66,618	93,164	54,832
1893-1896	65,942	80,778	118,184

Since the last annual report eight vessels have been completed, accepted and added to the Navy, viz.: Monadnock, Terror, Indiana, Massachusetts, Oregon, Katahdin, Ericsson and Brooklyn.

The following table is given, showing the present strength of seven principal navies:

Class.	Eng- land.	France.	Russia.	Italy.	Ger- many.	United States.	Spain.
Built.	Bldg.	Built.	Bldg.	Built.	Bldg.	Built.	Bldg.
Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.
Battleships:							
1st class	22	12	34	10	8	18	5
2d class	12	11	1	12	10	12	12
3d class	11	11	2	2	7	5	3
Total	45	37	23	9	32	10	8
Coast defense ship							
Cruisers:							
Armored	16	16	9	10	9	1	10
1st class	11	10	21	2	4	6	5
2d & 3d	51	24	75	10	9	19	8
Lookout ship or gunboats	19	19	12	12	11	12	9
Torpedo gunboats	34	34	12	3	15	8	2
Torpedo boats	96	96	3	3	1	1	1
Torpedo boats	160	160	241	161	176	145	315

This is a creditable showing, in view of the past, but it is far from sufficient, in view of the present size and constant growth of other navies we may have to encounter.

Our obligations and duties on this hemisphere are recognized by the world, and can not be met unless we are possessed of naval strength. If our merchant marine increases as it should, and no doubt will, the present naval strength will be very far from what it should be. Nothing will so surely make for peace and give us weight abroad and security at home as a substantial Navy constructed of the best materials and manned by the highest intelligence and skill.

REFORMS IN NAVAL ADMINISTRATION.

Mainly by departmental orders the important reforms of defects in the bureau system were accomplished under Mr. Whitney in placing the entire personnel under the Bureau of Navigation and consolidating under the new Bureau of Supplies and Accounts the purchase of supplies, pay of the Navy and rendering of all accounts. Mr. Herbert went step further, and by G. O. No. 433, Oct. 2, 1894, placed upon the Bureau of Construction and Repair the responsibility for the designs, structural strength and stability of vessels built for the Navy. This order was intended to secure harmony in the designs of new vessels, and it definitely fixed the responsibility for and mode of procedure in making changes from original plans. The Bureau of Construction and Repair was to be, unless its recommendations were overruled by the Department, responsible for the resultant general effect upon the ship of every change that might be made after the designs were approved. One of the most important effects of this order was to concentrate under one head full information as to changes authorized to be made in a ship from its beginning to its completion, and to fix responsibility for the proper correlation of work. Two years of practical experience under the provisions of this general order have demonstrated fully its wisdom, and the Department is now in a position to feel perfect confidence as to the ultimate results to be obtained from new designs, and can fix most definitely responsibility for any failure therein. As an example showing the smoothness with which the bureaus concerned in the construction of a ship are now co-operating, I may advert to the following facts: The act authorizing the construction of battleships 7, 8 and 9 contained the very unusual provision that the contract for their construction should be signed within 120 days from the date of passage of the act. This act was approved by you June 10, 1896. On June 11 the Department approved the report of a board which had been previously appointed to pass on the general features of the prospective battleship designs and on the same day ordered the Bureau of Construction and Repair to prepare circulars defining the chief characteristics of the battleships and torpedo-boats authorized by the act.

The circular proposals for the torpedo-boats were issued on June 17, 1896, and those for the battleships on June 22, 1896. The actual work of preparing designs was prosecuted by the Bureau of Construction and Repair with such dispatch that under date of Aug. 28—only 58 working days after the Department had ordered the designs—the first set of plans and specifications was ready for issue to prospective bidders.

The work of the year, as presented in the departmental reports, already published here in synopsis, is summed up under the several heads of "care and maintenance, the Navy afloat, auxiliary cruisers and our naval resources, reserve system, naval militia, guns, new small arms and machine guns, projectiles, armor, magazines, gun mounts, powder and torpedoes, yards and

docks, marine corps, Naval Academy, publication of naval war records, office of Naval Intelligence, training stations, torpedo stations, sale of condemned vessels, miscellaneous receipts, Navy Department Library, schedule of punishments, administering oaths, Naval Observatory lands, naval prisons, biennial examination of the bonds of pay officers, retirement of officers after thirty years' service and of enlisted men, coal supply, completion of tables for the Nautical Almanac, additional outfit for the Naval Observatory, steam engineering, liquid fuel, nickel steel for boiler plate, medicine and surgery, sanitary necessity of reclaiming the flats of the Eastern Branch of the Potomac River, civil service rules governing labor at navy yards."

The Secretary describes the improved business methods in the Navy since the general storekeeper system was established eight years ago, and quotes at length from his report of 1894 on this subject. To save necessary work and much duplication, the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts has been required to inform chiefs of bureaus weekly of the balances available under each appropriation and sub-head of appropriation, with which they are concerned, and to keep its accounts in such wise as to meet the specific reasons the other bureaus have urged as a justification for the unnecessary work they were doing. To encourage competition among bidders a board is engaged in simplifying specifications and adopting commercial nomenclature and commercial standards, as far as may be without prejudice to the service. It is hoped that this will rid the Navy of middlemen and professional contractors.

At the Navy Yard, Norfolk, a dry dock of sufficient size to take in the longest, widest and deepest draft ships is very much needed. It is therefore recommended that a dock of the following dimensions be appropriated for at that place: Length on floor, clear, 650 feet; width of entrance, 100 feet; depth at mean low water, 30 feet. This dock the Department recommends to be built of concrete, which possesses advantages over stone, first, in that the structure would be a monolith; second, more readily repaired; third, much cheaper. Its advantages over wood are durability and dryness. Estimated cost, \$1,000,000.

Our experience shows that the timbers in wooden docks above the permanently wet level rot in a very few years, that all of the altars, which are alternately wet and dry, decay rapidly, and that the timbers at the entrance are particularly liable to destruction from the "teredo." The outer sill of the Simpson Dry Dock, at Norfolk, Va., which was of creosoted oak, has been entirely destroyed by the "teredoes." This dock was opened Sept. 17, 1889. Attention is called to the channel leading to the Norfolk Navy Yard. This channel is now only being dredged to a depth of 25 feet at low water, which is insufficient for ships that draw, as some of ours do, 27 feet when fully loaded. It is suggested that steps be taken to have a channel at least 300 feet in width dredged to a depth of 30 feet at low water.

The work of the Naval Academy is highly commended. The discipline of the cadets has never been better, and the efficiency of the school has never been greater than at present. The age limit should be reduced. As officers of the Army, aside from the question of justice, such a provision would doubtless do something toward facilitating the promotion of the younger men in the service and give them a chance to get into the higher grades, where their services are very much needed. If the amendment in question should be adopted, a corresponding change should be made in section 1,588 of the Revised Statutes, which regulates the pay of officers upon the retired list of the Navy. A retired list for enlisted men of the Navy should also be created as in the Army and the Marine Corps.

The recommendation in reference to the reorganization of the office of Naval War Records is renewed. The rapid progress of the work reflects great credit on those engaged in it. The Navy Library has about 30,000 volumes. The list of Congressional documents is one of the most complete in the country.

The subject of naval prisons has received the careful consideration of the Department. The prison at Boston has been enlarged, the use of dark cells discontinued, courts have been advised to add a requirement respecting extra police duties to sentences involving confinement, under which suitable exercise can be required; the food furnished has been carefully inspected, and it is believed that all practicable and proper provision has now been made for the health and conduct of the inmates of prisons, while strictly maintaining their character.

The Attorney-General has decided that U. S. District Attorneys cannot be called to examine bonds of pay officers, and additional legislation is recommended requiring them to do so.

Naval officers should be granted the same privileges of retirement after thirty and forty years' service.

The estimate for 1898 on the appropriations for the two previous years are as follows:

	Appropriations, 1897.	Estimates, current year.
Gen'l establishment:		
Pay of the Navy.	\$7,850,873.00	\$8,100,873.00
Pay, miscellaneous	260,000.00	300,000.00
Contingent, Navy	7,000.00	7,000.00
Bureau of Yards and Docks:		
Ordinary expenses	821,379.04	741,486.04
Public works	1,295,190.78	1,373,662.57
Bureau of Navigation:		
Ordinary expenses	289,750.00	143,450.00
Naval Academy	231,031.45	274,801.45
Bureau of Equipment:		
Ordinary expenses	1,343,772.00	1,343,772.00
Naval Observatory	14,300.00	14,300.00
Bureau of Ordnance	1,767,190.00	1,499,324.00
Bureau Construction and Repair	2,40,472.50	1,985,472.50
Bureau of Steam Engineering	1,209,400.00	1,134,400.00
and Accounts	1,447,532.03	1,522,532.03
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery	137,200.00	137,200.00
Marine Corps:		
Pay Department	600,471.40	764,296.40
Q. M. Department	276,221.00	331,618.75
Total running expenses	19,672,783.20	19,033,606.95
Increase of the Navy:		
Bureau of Equipment	287,500.00	237,000.00
Bureau of Ordnance	3,955,204.00	4,421,454.00
Construction and machinery	5,395,679.00	6,870,600.00
Total increase of the Navy	9,638,383.00	11,529,054.00
Grand total	29,311,166.20	30,562,660.05

The Department during the last three years has given every possible aid and encouragement to the War College, and the results have been most gratifying. During this period lectures on naval topics by officers of the different corps of the Navy were delivered as heretofore. Capt. H. C. Taylor succeeded Capt. Mahan in charge of the college in 1893. He is an enthusiast in his profession, has the capacity of infusing enthusiasm into others, and upon taking charge he fully realized the opportunities for

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usefulness that were before him. In this age studies of possible and probable naval campaigns are entirely practicable. These studies, pursued with the aid of tactical games and of given strategical problems, have excited a fresh and lively interest, not only in the minds of officers present at the college, but throughout the entire Navy. The importance of such studies is shown by the fact that we have never had any experience of our own with fleets engaged against other fleets in battle. In the War of 1812 we had no fleets, and in the Civil War the enemy had none. We give in full what the Secretary says under the important heading of

INCREASE OF THE NAVY.

When the Department undertook in 1892 the task of laying down battleships, the drafts of the Indiana and Columbia classes having been brought to its attention, the Bureau of Construction was directed to prepare plans for the new vessels that should give them 2 feet less draft. It was urged that there were difficulties in the way, but the order was insisted upon and carried out. The battleships laid down during this Administration are, therefore, of lighter draft than those previously designed proved to be when completed, being 23 feet at normal and 25 feet at extreme draft. This step, which was in the right direction, it now appears did not go far enough, or perhaps it would be fairer to say that the battleships heretofore laid down, while adapted to the defense of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, are not as well suited for operations in the Gulf of Mexico. Attention is called to the following recommendations from the president of the War College:

"The close study of the Gulf of Mexico which has been carried on by the Department's orders during the last year shows it to be essential to the success of defensive naval campaigns that we shall be able to use for our fighting ships those harbors which nature has provided. Although possessing bases for fleets in that region, the fact that there is not enough depth of water for our fighting ships to enter them will render them of but slight benefit to us. It is submitted further that the artificial deepening of channels and entrances is not a good solution of this difficulty, because such dredged channels are of necessity narrow, easily blocked, and very sensitive to injuries from an enemy or the elements. The effort to remedy a shoal entrance by dredging a narrow channel across the bar seems unwise as far as naval and military questions are concerned, and the true remedy in the opinion of the War College, lies in decreasing the draft of the war ships to a point permitting them to enter. The college therefore respectfully suggests that future ships of war be planned for an extreme deep-load draft, with maximum coal supply on board, of 23 feet, and submits that considerations of strategy upon our Atlantic and Gulf coasts render this an essential to successful naval campaigns."

This reasoning is the final result of much careful study by able officers of conditions as they exist on our Southern coast. Battleships that could enter the harbors of Savannah, New Brunswick, Key West, Tampa, Pensacola, Mobile, and the mouth of the Mississippi at all times would have an immense advantage over the battleships of foreign nations, few, if any, of which could enter these ports. Light draft battleships, if we had them, could make any of these ports bases of supply, could sail forth from them or retire into them at will, and could therefore almost always offer battle on their own terms. There are also many of our ports farther north which would give the same advantages to such ships. I therefore recommend the authorization at the coming session of Congress of three such battleships. The tables of the comparative strength of the navies of the world heretofore quoted clearly show that we are still quite deficient in torpedo-boats. Very many of the naval powers of the world, which are in other respects much weaker than we, have two or three times as many torpedo-boats. I respectfully recommend the authorization of 12 torpedo-boats at the coming session of Congress.

In sending in this, my last annual report, I can not permit the occasion to pass without expressing my warm gratitude to Assistant Secretary McDowell for the ability, fidelity and promptness with which he has discharged the duties of his position. The Naval Militia, the Marine Corps, the repairs to ships, and other important matters have been made, by general order, especially under his charge. Not only has he performed his duties pertaining to these branches of the service, but he has afforded me much valuable aid and advice in other matters, and whenever the duty of managing the Navy Department devolved upon him, he has discharged it in the most satisfactory manner. When the Secretary and Assistant Secretary have both been absent, Rear Admiral F. M. Ramsay, the efficient Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, acted as Secretary to the entire satisfaction of the Department. I am also deeply indebted to the chiefs of bureaus and to the Judge Advocate-General of the Navy for the invaluable services they have rendered to the Department since my incumbency of this office. No head of a Department could ask for abler or more faithful and willing co-operation than I have received at their hands.

HILARY A. HERBERT,
Secretary of the Navy.

FORT MEADE, S. D.

Dec. 6, 1896.

The second football game of the season, originally scheduled for Thanksgiving Day, but postponed on account of bad weather, was played Tuesday, Dec. The contesting teams were from Troop B and Troop H. Troop B made the first touchdown in six minutes, but failed at the goal. Troop H then took the ball, and after losing the ball and regaining it several times, secured a hard-earned touchdown.

The game, so far as individual conduct was concerned, was a great improvement over previous games. A better knowledge of the game and greater skill in passing and in interference was also noticeable. Both teams were weak on kicking (that is physically, not verbally), and have not yet learned the value of advancing the ball by return kicks. The final score was 14 to 14.

Umpire, Lieut. Chitty; Referee, Lieut. Sweezy; Linesman, Lieut. Saxton.

After the hop an adjournment was made to the officer's club rooms, where, after cards, the party had supper with Lieut. Sweezy.

Lieut. Slocum and bride (nee Miss Garrison) arrived last Tuesday from St. Louis.

Capt. and Mrs. Johnston, Lieut. and Mrs. A. M. Davis and Lieut. Walcutt left the post last week for a short leave.

The "Card Club" held its session last Wednesday at Lieut. and Mrs. Farber's. The game for the evening was euchre. Miss Comba won the first ladies' prize, Lieut. Chitty first gentleman's prize.

The regiment goes out to-morrow upon its regular monthly practice march.

St. Louis, according to dispatches, is up in arms at the report that Jefferson Barracks may be abandoned as a garrisoned post, for sanitary reasons, and, as stated, "influence from every available source will be brought to bear on the War Department, and nothing will be left undone to avert the prospect of losing such a valuable adjunct to the city as Jefferson Barracks."

Mr. C. G. Almy, representing the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, has been in Washington this week completing arrangements between his firm and the Japanese Government for the construction of the cruiser recently negotiated for. The Cramps are also contractors for a similar vessel. It is expected that Mr. Scott and Mr. Cramp, the presidents of the Union Iron Works, and the Cramp Ship and Engine Company will be in Washington next week, and attach their signatures to the contracts. The work of construction will then begin immediately.

On Monday the Navy Department appointed a board consisting of Capt. A. H. McCormick, Commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard, president; Chief Engr. J. A. B. Smith, and Asst. Naval Constr. Robert B. Dashiell, to investigate the defects recently discovered in the armor plates used in the construction of the battleships Kearsarge and Kentucky, now building at the yards of the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. On Tuesday the board convened at Newport News, and are still in session.

Civil Engr. A. G. Menocal, who with his principal assistant, Civil Engr. U. S. G. White, was held responsible for the accident to the caisson at the New York dry dock last summer, has asked for a reconsideration of Secretary Herbert's action in censuring him. Mr. Menocal declares that the findings of the Board of Inquiry, convened in the matter were not in accordance with the evidence adduced, and believes that he should have been entirely acquitted from responsibility. The Secretary has Mr. Menocal's communication under consideration.

Of the twenty-four enlisted men who successfully passed the competitive examination at Fort Leavenworth last September for promotion to the grade of second lieutenant, none has yet received an appointment, owing to the number of additional second lieutenants from last year's West Point class to be absorbed. There is a prospect, however, that some of these enlisted men may receive a commission early next year, as there are but three additional second lieutenants of infantry yet to be absorbed. There are but twelve additional second lieutenants of cavalry, but this list will be reduced by four when the recent appointments in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments are confirmed. There are still two additional second lieutenants of engineers and eight of artillery.

Gen. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, on Monday awarded the contract for the construction of a concrete battery at Sandy Hook, in execution of the general plan of coast defense, to Frank W. Molloy, at \$78,202. On Wednesday contracts were awarded as follows: To the California Construction Co. for a gun battery and torpedo casemate in the harbor of San Diego, Cal., at their bid of \$109,000; to Jacob Findlay, of Pittsburgh, Pa., for a two-gun battery on Sullivan's Island, in the harbor of Charleston, S. C., at \$110,000; to Richard W. Dudley, of New York, for a gun battery on Dutch Island, Newport harbor, R. I., at \$56,957. There were considerable competition for the work, and the award was made in each case to the lowest bidder.

PERSONAL.

Col. George F. Towle, U. S. A., is a recent guest at the Hotel Continental, Paris, France.

Lieut. C. A. Bradbury, U. S. N., retired, is at 2004 Fifteenth street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Lieut. Richard G. Davenport, U. S. N., who is on leave, is at 1225 Connecticut avenue, Washington.

Lieut. J. M. Orchard, U. S. N., of the Naval Academy, is at Willard's Hotel, Washington, on leave.

Lieut. Comdr. Albert Ross, U. S. N., of the Naval Academy, has been in Washington for a few days.

Rear Adm. John Irwin, U. S. N., retired, is in Washington, at 912 Nineteenth street, N. W., for an indefinite period.

Lieut. W. A. Simpson, 2d Art., on leave from Fort Adams, R. I., is visiting at 157 South Oxford street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Col. B. J. D. Irwin, U. S. A., spending the winter in Chicago, is a recent visitor in New York, with quarters at the Park Avenue Hotel.

Lieut. M. B. Safford, 13th Inf., of Fort Columbus, is now in temporary charge of the general recruiting station at 513 Broadway, in Albany, N. Y.

Lieut. Comdr. John A. Rodgers, U. S. N., Inspector of Steel at South Bethlehem, while in Washington this week was a guest of the Army and Navy Club.

Mr. Charles Ayer Whipple, of New York, who painted a portrait of Secretary Herbert for the Navy Department, has finished a picture of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee.

A reminder how time flies is occasioned by the debut in Washington society, Dec. 9, of Miss Vivian Sartoris, granddaughter of the late Gen. U. S. Grant, at the home of whose widow the event took place with due social ceremonies.

Mrs. Barr, wife of Col. Thomas F. Barr, Assistant Judge Advocate General, U. S. Army, of Governor's Island and was called to Fort Leavenworth this week by the illness of her daughter, Mrs. Tompkins, wife of Lieut. Frank Tompkins, 7th Cav.

Lieut. Grote Hutcheson, 9th Cav., A. D. C. to Gen. Copper, who is also Inspector of Small Arms, Practice Department of the Platte, invites especial attention to the number of sharpshooters (220) in the eight troops of the 8th Cavalry, serving in the department.

The wedding of Miss Rose K. Schaefer and Freiherr Scherlitz von Burtenbach, 1st Lieutenant in the Wurtzburg Army, took place Dec. 9 at the home of the bride's parents, New York City, 529 Madison avenue. Only the relatives and a few intimate friends were invited to the wedding. An elaborate bridal dinner followed the ceremony.

Capt. McDonald, of Chicago, father of Lieut. Godfrey H. McDonald, Q. M. 1st Cav.; Capt. W. C. Brown, 1st Cav., and Lieuts. Furlong and Folz, same regiment, left Fort Riley recently for a hunt near Fort Sill, O. T. While at that post they will be the guests of Capt. Scott, 7th Cav.

Comdr. Converse, of the torpedo station, Newport, R. I., and Mrs. Converse celebrated their silver wedding Dec. 9. Nearly all the naval officers and officers at Fort Adams and their families were present, and the cottage colony was also well represented. Comdr. and Mrs. Converse were the recipients of many valuable gifts. Mrs. Converse was assisted in receiving by her two daughters.

Navy officers lately registering in New York City are: Rear Adm. F. M. Bunce, The Gerlach; Lieut. S. L. Graham, Astor House; Asst. Engr. J. R. Brady, Everett House; Naval Cadet D. R. Merritt, Continental; Ensign C. Bailey, Capt. J. R. Bartlett, Naval Cadet H. V. Butler, Jr., St. Denis; Asst. Surg. J. M. Moore, Gunner C. Morgan, Med. Instr. J. C. Spear, Naval Cadets R. Spear and J. E. Walker, Grand Hotel; Rear Adm. O. F. Stanton, Albermarle.

Capt. Norman H. Farquhar, U. S. N., waiting orders, is at 1807 H street, N. W., Washington, for a few days.

Lieut. H. C. Hale, 20th Inf., and Mrs. Hale are recent visitors at Fort Thomas, Ky., the guests of Lieut. B. A. Poore.

Col. A. T. Smith and Capt. J. C. Chance, 18th Inf., of Niagara, paid a short visit to Buffalo and Fort Porter this week.

Lieut. W. T. Littebrandt, 7th Cav., is a recent arrival at Fort Bayard from St. Louis, where he has been spending a leave.

Lieut. W. K. Jones, 6th Inf., on leave from Fort Thomas, Ky., visited in New York and at Governors Island and this week.

Lieut. Charles Dudley Rhodes, 6th Cav., U. S. A., has an Army story, entitled "Polton," in "The Penny Magazine" for December.

Lieut. R. McA. Schofield, 5th Cav., under recent transfer since promotion, joins at Fort Clark, Tex., for duty with Capt. Andrus' troop, I.

Lieut. Comdr. Daniel Delahanty, U. S. N., supervisor of New York harbor, was a guest of the Army and Navy Club, Washington, this week.

Comdr. Allan D. Brown, U. S. N., retired, was inaugurated as president of Norwich University, at Norwich, Vt., on Tuesday of this week.

Capt. J. C. Watson, U. S. N., Governor of the Naval Academy, at Philadelphia, was at 1816 N street, N. W., Washington, for a few days this week.

The engagement has been announced of Lieut. M. R. Peterson, 6th U. S. Inf., to Miss Martha Allison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allison, of Cincinnati.

Brevet Lieut. Col. Henry C. Morgan, U. S. A., retired, of Colchester, Conn., has been again appointed Assistant Quartermaster General on the staff of the Governor of Connecticut.

Gen. Sir H. H. Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Army, has been permitted to accept from the Sultan of Turkey the decoration of the Order of Osman-leb for the services rendered by him in Egypt.

Capt. Yates Stirling, U. S. N., commanding the Lancaster, has been appointed commander-in-chief of the South Atlantic station, and orders have been sent him to that effect. This is in accordance with the recommendation of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy that Capt. Stirling be empowered to hold courts martial.

"Harper's Round Table" for Dec. 8 contains an article by Richard Barry on "Famous Cavalry Charges," the one here described being the charge at Beverly Ford. The article contains several quotations from Gen. Merritt's spirited description of this famous fight and it is accompanied by an illustration, in which the General figures conspicuously.

Army officers lately visiting in New York City are: Prof. P. S. Michie, St. Cloud; Lieut. G. F. Barney, Lieut. W. R. Smedburg, Lieut. J. H. Rice, Capt. J. P. Thompson, Grand Hotel; Lieut. J. E. Hoffer, Plaza Hotel; Prof. S. E. Tillman and E. W. Bass, Murray Hill; Capt. W. F. Spurgin, Sturtevant House; Maj. H. S. Tull, Park Avenue; Col. John M. Wilson, Westminster; Capt. W. Crozier, The Gerlach.

Omaha items from the "Excelsior" are: Dr. W. B. Banister, Surg., Fort Crook, was driving with his wife and baby Wednesday when the horse ran away and overturned the buggy. The three were bruised but not seriously injured. On Tuesday Miss Ballance, of Peoria, and Miss Sloan attended the hop at Fort Crook. They were the guests of Capt. Ballance. Lieut. Harry C. Hodges, 22d Inf., has reported for duty with his regiment after an absence of several years at Durham, N. H., where he was professor of military science.

The following officers were among the arrivals at the Ebbitt House, Washington, D. C., for the week ending Dec. 9, 1896: Capt. L. N. Stodder, R. C. S.; Capt. J. B. Moore, R. C. S.; Capt. S. E. Maguire, R. C. S.; Lieut. W. H. Allaire, U. S. A.; Capt. Wm. A. Tisdall, U. S. A.; Ensign H. K. Hines, U. S. N.; Lieut. J. E. McMahon, U. S. A.; Lieut. H. F. Fitchbom, U. S. N.; Lieut. J. J. Morrow and wife, U. S. A.; Asst. Engr. C. B. Price, U. S. N.; Lieut. T. C. Fenton, U. S. N.; Naval Cadet M. St. C. Ellis, U. S. N.; Naval Cadet J. H. Roys, U. S. N.; Lieut. J. J. Pershing, U. S. A.; Comdr. J. B. Coghill, U. S. N., and Mrs. Coghill; Lieut. H. H. Benham, U. S. A.

Lieut. Arthur Wallace Chase, 2d Art., was married Dec. 2, at Wilmington, Del., to Miss Edith Bentley Lea, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Lea. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents, the Rev. C. E. Murray, rector of St. Andrews', officiating. Miss Jennie Lovett Lea was maid of honor, and the bridesmaids were the Misses Jean Lea, Mary Trump, Isabel Vass, Mary Parker and Miss Smith. Lieut. S. A. Kephart, 4th Art., was best man, and the ushers were Lieuts. A. M. Hunter, G. O. Squier and J. A. Shipton, and Messrs. F. B. Hancock and E. T. Lea. A reception followed, at which were several hundred guests. After a short tour the married couple join at Fort Monroe.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Gen. John Kemp Mizner, U. S. A., and Mrs. Julia Rowland Richards, of this city, says the Louisville "Courier-Journal." The marriage will take place at St. Andrew's Church, Dec. 17. Mrs. Richards is an Alabamian by birth, coming of one of Mobile's oldest families. She has spent much time in Louisville, where she has won many friends by her charming manners, for which she is noted. Gen. Mizner is in command of the 10th Cav., Fort Assiniboine. He comes of one of the oldest and most prominent families of Detroit, Mich., and there is no officer in the U. S. Army who is more highly esteemed and few who have a more brilliant record. They will sail from New York early in January for Naples, Italy, and will spend several months abroad. Mrs. Richards is a lady well known in Mobile society. She is the mother of Miss Carol Richards, who married Lieut. Vidmer, U. S. A., a few years ago.

The ball given by Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., at the Auditorium, Chicago, on the evening of Dec. 4, was the first great social function of the season. Although a military affair, in many details, the General had made it distinctly understood that the ball had no official significance; that it was given by him in his personal capacity only; that it was intended as a compliment to the many people of Chicago who had greeted him kindly and hospitably since his arrival in that city, and at the same time was the medium of introducing the officers now at Fort Sheridan who have not had formal introduction to the society of Chicago. The decorations of the rooms were tasteful, unique, and, of course, generally military. Gen. Merritt, who was attended by his aides-de-camp, Lieuts. L. H. Strother, T. Bentley Mott and H. C. Hale, received his guests and opened the ball, escorting Mrs. Potter Palmer. No formal supper was served, but a buffet collation was provided from 11:30 P. M. to 1 A. M. The 4th U. S. Infantry Band was present to aid in the musical features of this most brilliant occasion. In addition to the army officers and ladies of Chicago and Fort Sheridan present many were there from distant points.

Rear Adm. Daniel Ammen is spending the winter at Ammendale, Md.

Lieut. A. W. Chase, 2d Art., and bride, were expected this week at Fort Monroe, Va.

Asst. Engr. E. Dismukes, U. S. N., on sick leave is spending a portion of it at Macon, Miss.

Lieut. P. M. Malone, 13th Inf., Fort Niagara, was a visitor this week at Buffalo and Fort Porter.

Lieut. J. S. Oyster, 1st Art., is located for a portion of the winter at 212 East Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

Lieut. S. P. Adams, 1st U. S. Cav., left Fort Riley, Kan., this week to spend the holidays with relatives in Alabama.

Capt. E. Van A. Andruss, 1st Art., on regimental recruiting duty at Jersey City, is a recent visitor at Governors Island.

Comdr. J. B. Coughlan, U. S. N., of the 8th Light-house District, has been at the Ebbitt House, Washington, this week.

Miss Helen A. Kress, daughter of Col. J. A. Kress, is the guest of Miss Howard, daughter of Gen. O. O. Howard, Burlington, Vt.

1st Lieut. John J. Pershing, 10th Cav., U. S. A., who is on leave, spent several days at the Ebbitt House, Washington, this week.

Capt. James Fornance, 13th U. S. Inf., on a few weeks' leave from Fort Columbus, is spending a portion of it at Baton Rouge, La.

Lieut. W. C. Rogers, 7th Inf., left Denver, Colo., this week for the East, to join at Willets Point for a course of instruction in torpedo service.

Asst. Engr. J. S. Greene, U. S. N., of Watertown, N. Y., is a recent addition to the membership of the New York Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Capt. W. H. Clapp, 16th Inf., Acting Indian Agent at Pine Ridge Agency, S. Dakota, is a recent arrival at Fort Leavenworth, to be examined for promotion.

Mrs. Clayton Hale, widow of the late Col. Clayton, Hale, U. S. A., retired, is located at 567 Fourteenth street, Oakland, Cal., for the winter.

Lieut. Gen. and Mrs. Schofield spent several days in Washington this week, and then left for St. Augustine, Fla., where they will spend the winter.

Lieut. Thomas W. Winston, 5th Art., was expected to leave Fort Slocum, N. Y., the latter part of this week to spend the holidays with friends in Chicago.

Capt. N. S. Jarvis, Asst. Surg. U. S. A., on six months' leave from Willets Point since Nov. 1 last, is quartered at 142 Madison avenue, New York City.

Lieut. S. P. Adams, 1st Cav. of Fort Riley, recently made the happy father of a son, is visiting at Tuscaloosa, Ala., where Mrs. Adams has been for some time past.

Capt. Charles King, U. S. Army, read an interesting paper on "A Boy's Recollection of Our Great Generals" before the Wisconsin Commandery of the Loyal Legion on Dec. 2.

Mr. Frank B. Semple, of Minneapolis, admitted this week into the Minnesota Commandery of the Loyal Legion, is a brother of Capt. J. Y. Semple, 15th U. S. Inf., who died in 1867.

Miss Emma Nugent, daughter of Gen. Robert Nugent, U. S. A., retired, formerly of the 13th U. S. Inf., is visiting old friends of the regiment, Capt. and Mrs. Auman, at Fort Niagara, N. Y.

Col. Ralph Cushing Webster, a distinguished officer of the Q. M. Department, U. S. V., during the war, serving from 1861 to 1866, is a recent addition to the Colorado Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Lieut. Col. W. A. Jones, C. E., U. S. A., has returned to St. Paul from a busy time at Chippewa Falls, Wis., where he was called for service in connection with the recent dangerous ice gorge at that point.

Mrs. Delta Vickery Heaton announces the marriage of her daughter, Fay, to Mr. William Allen Phillips, 1st Lieut., 2d Inf., U. S. A., on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1896, at 7:30 o'clock, Grace Church, Galesburg, Ill.

Maj. H. C. Cushing, U. S. A., Assistant Superintendent in the Street Cleaning Department of New York City, presented on Dec. 5 the banners won at the recent Horse Show by the employees with ash and garbage carts.

Gen. A. J. Perry, U. S. A., who is pleasantly located at 2003 1st street, N. W., Washington, D. C., reached his sixty-eighth birthday on Dec. 11, closely followed by Gen. N. B. Sweitzer on Dec. 12. The latter is at present at the Portland, Washington, D. C.

The first indoor concert in a series to be given by the 2d U. S. Art. band at Fort Adams, took place Dec. 5. Col. Pennington, the new commanding officer, and nearly all the officers and their families were present. The family of Lieut. M. G. Zalinski arrived on Dec. 5.

Rear Adm. F. A. Roe, U. S. N., concludes an interesting letter to the New York "Times" on the subject of Turkish rule in the Morea by saying: "Like the Canaanites of old, Turkey is a plague spot, and a contamination to the nations by whom she is surrounded; and like the ancient Hebrews, the modern world is waiting wearily for another Joshua to exterminate the Turk, as he exterminated the Canaanites."

The appointment of 1st Lieut. Thomas Cruse, Q. M., 6th Cav., to the vacancy in the Quartermaster's Department for a Captain, and A. Q. M., seems to give general satisfaction. Lieut. Cruse has a fine record, being an honor graduate of the Infantry and Cavalry School and the holder of a medal of honor "for distinguished conduct in action against hostile Apache Indians at the Big Dry Wash, Ariz., July 17, 1882, gallantly charging the enemy, and also with his carbine compelling a party of them to keep under cover of their breastworks, thus being enabled to recover a soldier severely wounded, while serving as 2d. Lieut., 6th Cav."

Fort Leavenworth items from the "Times" are: Mrs. Stevens, wife of Lieut. Stevens, 9th Cav., has returned from a visit to her home in Wilkesbarre, Pa. Mrs. Knox, wife of Capt. Knox, 1st Cav., and Miss Knox and Miss Barry, the latter the daughter of Chaplain Barry, are the guests of Mrs. Sands. Lieut. Col. Wheaton is spending a month's leave in Chicago. Capt. Moon and Lieut. Estes, Jr., 20th Inf., read each a very excellent paper before the lyceum. The first on "Imparting Instruction to Company," and the last on "The Profession of Arms." Maj. and Mrs. Kramer give a dinner to Maj. and Mrs. Chaffee. Miss Mitchell, of Hartford, Conn., is the guest for a time of Capt. Hammond, 8th Cav., and Miss Hammond. Mrs. Mills, wife of Lieut. Mills, 1st Cav., gave luncheon to a number of lady friends at the post. The Fort Leavenworth Euchre Club had its last inning at Mrs. Wheaton's. Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Dickman won first and second prizes. Mrs. Howard, wife of Lieut. Howard, 19th Inf., visiting at the home of Lieut. and Mrs. Day, is awaiting the final recovery of her husband, a patient in the hospital, and will then proceed to California for a visit to parents and other relatives in San Francisco.

Lieut. L. H. Bash, 13th Inf., is a recent arrival at Fort Porter, N. Y.

Maj. A. S. Nicholson, U. S. Marine Corps, retired, is spending the winter at Hamilton, Va.

1st Lieut. J. E. McMahon, 4th Art., U. S. A., is at the Ebbitt House, Washington, on leave.

Lieut. H. F. Fichbohm, U. S. N., of the Naval Intelligence Office, is at the Ebbitt House, Washington.

Lieut. E. F. Taggart, 6th Inf., now visiting in Chicago, will return to Fort Thomas, Ky., about Christmas.

Lieut. F. M. Caldwell, 3d U. S. Cav., on a few weeks' leave from Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., is visiting at Oshkosh, Wis.

Col. R. Lodor, U. S. A., and Mrs. Lodor are recent visitors in Denver, Colo., with quarters at the Windsor in that city.

Capt. S. P. Jocelyn, 2d Inf., of Plattsburg Barracks, arrived at Fort Leavenworth this week to be examined for promotion.

Rear Adm. Henry Erben, U. S. N., is pleasantly located for the winter at 130 East Forty-fourth street, New York City.

Adjt. Frank McIntyre, 19th Inf., was expected to leave Fort Wayne, Mich., this week to return about the middle of February.

Lieut. D. W. Ryther, 6th Inf., will shortly start from Fort Thomas, Ky., to spend a short leave with relatives at West Seneca, N. Y.

Gen. Horatio G. Wright, U. S. A., a hale veteran, and Mrs. Wright are passing the winter at 1203 N street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Capt. E. L. Randall and Lieut. E. C. Carnahan, 5th U. S. Inf., of Fort McPherson, paid a pleasant visit to Fort Barrancas, Fla., this week.

Capt. H. P. Ritzius, 25th Inf., on sick leave from Fort Assiniboine, Mont., since Sept. 30 last, will spend the holiday season at Hot Springs, Ark.

Rear Adm. Henry Erben, U. S. N., was one of the speakers of the Union College Alumni Association, at the Hotel Savoy, New York, on the evening of Dec. 10.

Maj. A. H. Jackson, Pamyr., U. S. A., was expected in Washington, D. C., from Albany the latter part of this week to report to Paym. Gen. Stanton for duty.

Lieut.-Col. H. C. Hasbrouck, 4th Art., is sitting as president of a board at Fort Monroe to consider necessary changes to improve the efficiency of the armament.

Maj. J. R. Myrick, 5th Art., on leave for some time past, since relinquishing command at Key West Barracks, has joined for duty at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, N. Y.

Lieut. Col. J. F. Randlett and Col. James Biddle, 9th Cav., to whose excellent record of service we referred last week, were duly retired for age on Dec. 8 and Dec. 11, respectively.

Ensign M. H. Signor, U. S. N., has been spending a few days with Ensign Lay H. Everhart, U. S. N., at the latter's residence, in Washington, before proceeding to his station on the Castine.

The wedding of Col. J. K. Mizner, 10th Cav., and Mrs. J. D. Richards, of Louisville, Ky., is announced to take place in that city on Dec. 17. The bride is the mother of Mrs. Vidmer, wife of Lieut. George Vidmer, 10th Cav., stationed at Fort Assiniboine, and is highly esteemed by the people of that garrison.—Kansas City Times.

Lieut. M. D. Parker, 9th Cav., U. S. A., aside from his duties as recruiting officer in Cincinnati, organized a cavalry troop there, with the greatest success. The work of the Lieutenant was so much appreciated that when a recent order was issued ordering him to assume duties at Albany, N. Y., the matter was taken up by the citizens, who requested the order revoked, and it was. This shows that the work of the army officers among State troops is appreciated.

The announcement that Post Chaplain Malnor C. Blaine lost his life in a fire at Fort Ringgold, Tex., while making an effort to save his daughter, was received with much sorrow by many at Fort Leavenworth, says the Kansas City Times, and especially by the family of Capt. Phister, who is first cousin to Mrs. Blaine. The daughter, whose life was lost, is the only child of Mrs. Blaine. Both she and the chaplain were natives of Mayesville, Ky. The chaplain is the son of S. L. Blaine, who was first cousin to the late James Gillespie Blaine.

The Harrisburg "Telegram" has a pleasant account of the recruiting office in that city, presided over by Lieut. W. E. Almy, 5th Cav. Lieut. Almy is quoted as saying: "I like your city very much. It is a delightful town, and everybody is so sociable and agreeable. Why it seems as though I had lived here all my life. You have two very fine military companies here. I have watched some of their movements and can very conscientiously and willingly compliment both officers and men. The boy companies are also doing excellent work. Military instruction for youths is the best that can be given in connection with their regular school lessons and mechanical tutelage. The latter, in my opinion, should receive recognition from every school board."

The fourth regular Friday afternoon reception and hop of the season at the New York Navy Yard was held from 4 until 6 P. M., Dec. 4. The affair was well attended by the ladies of the households of the officers on duty at the station, and also by officers from the New York, Massachusetts, Terror, Essex, Vermont, Katahdin and coast survey steamer Bache. A committee of ladies managed the reception, and tea was poured under their direction during the intermission. The officers who managed these receptions are Capt. F. J. Higginson, captain of the yard; Lieut. G. A. Calhoun, Lieut. A. C. Dillingham, Passed Asst. Engr. W. H. Chambers and Passed Asst. Engr. C. H. Matthews. These receptions, which are greatly enjoyed by the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps, will be continued until the beginning of Lent.

Miss Mary Child Green, sister of Lieut. J. O. Green, 25th U. S. Inf., was married Nov. 26, 1896, at Fort Atkinson, Wis., to Mr. Ellis E. Rogers, a prominent journalist of Racine, Wis. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. B. F. Rogers, of Whitehaven, Wis., the father of the groom. The bride is an artist of more than local reputation. The couple have a notable genealogy. The groom's father was a chaplain of the 15th Illinois Inf. during the war, and traces his ancestry back to John Rogers, the martyr, and through his mother to Hannah Dustin, of Haverhill, Mass., who was captured in 1693 by the Indians, and made her escape after killing several of them. The bride's brother, Lieut. Green, is the seventh of the name in direct descent who have been in the military service of the country. Her father, Joseph Green, M. D., was Asst. Surg. of the 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Inf. in the war of 1861-65. Her paternal great grandfather served in the War of the Revolution three years, and was present at the execution of Major André. Her maternal great grandfather, Capt. Increase Child, served the country eight years in the War of the Revolution under Genls. Schuyler and Gates, and her maternal great grandfather, Amos Burnham, commanded a privateer in the same war.

Lieut. Comdr. A. V. Wadham, U. S. N., is in Washington on leave.

Lieut. Comdr. S. Hubbard, U. S. N., retired, is spending the winter at Garden City, N. Y.

Lieut. J. A. Cole, 6th Cav., and family lately visiting at Castile, N. Y., are recent arrivals at West Point.

Col. Anson Mills, 3d Cav., and Mrs. Mills, are located at 2 Du Pont Circle, Washington, D. C., for the winter.

Mrs. Mack, widow of Col. Oscar Addison Mack, U. S. A., is at 202 West Seventy-ninth street, New York, for the winter.

Lieut. R. G. Hill, 20th U. S. Inf., and Mrs. Hill have rejoined at Fort Leavenworth from a visit to relatives at Columbus, O.

Maj. John Simpson, Q. M. U. S. A., stationed in St. Paul, is expected East soon to spend until the middle of February on leave.

Capt. William Baird, 6th Cav., lately visiting in Washington, D. C., was expected to rejoin at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., this week.

Capt. D. D. Mitchell, 15th U. S. Inf., under recent orders of transfer changes base from Fort Bayard, N. M., to Fort Grant, Ariz.

Lieut. S. F. Massey, U. S. A., whose latest address is care U. S. Consul, San José, Costa Rica, reached his forty-fourth birthday on Dec. 10.

Maj. Calvin De Witt, Surg. U. S. A., arrived at Fort Monroe, Va., from the West on Dec. 3, and has taken charge of the Medical Department at that post.

Col. M. P. Miller, 1st Art., commanding at St. Francis Barracks, St. Augustine, has had the batteries under his command busy of late at Fort Marion at heavy artillery practice.

Governor-elect John R. Tanner, of Illinois, will be married Dec. 30 to Miss Cora Edith English, of Springfield, Ill., a relative of Gen. Daniel McClure, U. S. A., of Crescent Hill, Ky.

Capt. T. E. True, A. Q. M. U. S. A., lately relieved from duty at Boston, Mass., is visiting at Mattoon, Ill., and will join at Vancouver Barracks, Washington, toward the end of January next.

Horatio Sprague Blanchard, of Waterville, Me., who served honorably during the entire war as Acting Master, U. S. N., has recently been elected a companion of the Maine Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Lieut. H. E. Wilkins, 2d Inf., who has been on National Guard duty at Des Moines, Ia., since February, 1894, will shortly relinquish it and after spending a few months on leave join his regiment at Fort Keogh, Mont., in April next.

The New York "Sun," referring to the debut at a concert in New York on the evening of Dec. 6, of Miss Laura Wallen, daughter of the late Gen. H. D. Wallen, U. S. A., says: "The young artist has been studying for more than two years in Paris with Mme. Viardot and M. Jacques Bouhy. She has a dramatic mezzo-soprano voice, which shows extreme cultivation. Miss Wallen's voice filled Carnegie Hall with the most perfect ease, and she was warmly applauded. Report says that she is quite as good an actress as she is a singer, and that, having refused an excellent offer from the Carl Rosa Company, for a three years' contract, preferring to make her entrée before her own countrymen, she may yet be heard in opera here under the most favorable possible auspices."

Mrs. Burbank, wife of Maj. J. B. Burbank, U. S. A., gave a reception at her residence in Albany, N. Y., on Dec. 5, to introduce her daughter, Miss Alice White Burbank, to society. This had something of the military atmosphere in which the young debutante has spent the greater part of her life. A number of Army people were invited and their presence lent a distinction wholly unusual at a coming-out tea, but decidedly in keeping with the life of an Army officer's family, writes a correspondent. The decorations of the drawing room where Mrs. Burbank received formally with Miss Burbank and Mrs. R. A. Richards, of Cambridge, were unique and pretty. Assisting also in receiving were Mrs. Manning, wife of Capt. Manning; Miss Helen Martin, Miss Harriet Parker, Miss Mary Anderson, Miss Annie Ghio and Miss McNair. The entire social set of Albany and several guests from Troy were represented. The military guests present were Maj. and Mrs. Arnold, Miss Arnold and Mr. Lawrence Arnold; Maj. and Mrs. Butler, Capt. and Mrs. Blunt, Capt. and Mrs. Hobbs, Mrs. Junius W. McMurray, Lieut. and Mrs. Burr, Lieut. and Mrs. Pierce, Capt. and Mrs. Manning and Mr. Summerhays.

Speaking of the reception by Maj. Pollock, referred to last week, the San Antonio "Express" of Nov. 30 says: "Mr. Ignacio Borda was the recipient of many courtesies during his stay in the garrison. Rides, drag parties, hops, dinners and luncheons were tendered, but the most conspicuous event of the week was the reception. The reception was most unique and in all respects delightful. Mr. Borda himself, one of the most accomplished gentlemen of his country, coming in contact with the ladies and gentlemen of the Army at Fort Clark, naturally developed situations most pleasing to all. On Monday last Mr. Borda returned to Mexico, carrying with him the best wishes and friendliest esteem of every man, woman and child in Fort Clark. Later, but just how soon, has not been announced, he will return to claim the bride-elect, Miss Josephine Pollock, daughter of Maj. O. W. Pollock, who after thirty-five years of service in the 23d Inf., only a few months ago received his promotion to the 24th. Mrs. Pollock is the daughter of the millionaire capitalist, Thompson, of San Francisco, and on the retirement of Maj. Pollock next year the family will make their home near the ancestral residence in California."

Mrs. Sheridan's visit to Philadelphia, Dec. 4, to witness the unveiling of John Mulvaney's painting, "Little Phil," was an exceeding pleasant occasion. She was accompanied by her son, Philip H. Sheridan, and her father, Gen. D. H. Rucker, U. S. A., an escort of Pennsylvania troops conducted the party from the railroad station to the Hotel Lafayette. At the reception there Mrs. Sheridan, her son and her father stood in front of the veiled picture. On either side were the non-commissioned officers and the Reception Committee, with Gov. Hastings, his wife and his uniformed staff; former Gov. and Mrs. Pattison, Mayor Warwick, Maj. Gen. Snowden and his division staff, Gen. Howell and staff, 1st Brigade; the commanding officers of the local militia with their respective staffs, and nearly all of the Army and Navy officers stationed within reach of the city. Music at 8:30 o'clock was a signal for the son to draw the cord that released the flags over the painting. It was greeted with tumultuous applause. Gov. Hastings, Col. A. K. McClure and John A. Quayley made addresses. The canvas is 11 by 20 feet. The dusty road from Winchester runs through the center. Sheridan on horseback is the commanding feature. Ambulance and hospital wagons of the retreating Union forces are massed along the way. On the faces of all is shown the electric effect of Sheridan's appearance—the enthusiasm of wounded and disheartened men, the first evidences of the magical transformation in the shattered ranks of Union forces at sight of their commander.

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FORT SPOKANE.

Sergt. James W. Davis, of Company "B," formerly color sergeant of the regiment, is provost sergeant. Sergt. Davis, whose term of enlistment expires in December, has lately applied for permission to re-enlist. Pvt. William Cantwell, Company "B," who was assistant baker at Fort Douglas, has been detailed on extra duty, as post baker, relieving Joseph Franz, of the same company, who baked for the companies of the 4th Infantry here for some years.

The November payment was made on the 9th inst., Lieut. Cowles superintending the distribution of the funds. This is several days earlier than the troops were used to being paid at Douglas, spite of the inconvenience of conveying the funds twenty-five miles by stage.

The Post Exchange was opened a few days after the arrival of the troops here, under the management of Lieut. Tyler, with Harry Clark as steward. In addition to the stock purchased of the 4th Infantry, an entirely new line of goods was secured in Spokane. Arrangements are now being made for the sale of St. Louis beer. Heretofore a home product has been sold exclusively, but it is not as well liked as that which can be imported.

John Draney, a private in Company "E," who was sentenced to serve six months' confinement, with forfeiture of \$10 per month of his pay for the same period, on conviction of using insubordinate language to an officer, has just secured a remission of sentence of two months. This, with his time for good conduct, will effect his release on the 14th of December.

Three feet of snow on the ground, and indications of more.

ST. FRANCIS' BARRACKS, FLA.

The Valencia Hotel, St. Augustine, had quite a gathering of Army people at dinner on Thanksgiving day, among them being Col. J. J. Upham and wife, Col. Marcus P. Miller, Mrs. Miller, Miss Miller, Capt. Van Ness, Lieut. and Mrs. John V. White and Miss Katherine White, Lieut. and Mrs. C. L. Best and Miss Mary Best, Lieut. and Mrs. Albert Todd, Lieut. F. S. Harlow, Surg. F. J. Ives, Lieut. R. P. Johnston, C. E.; Lieut. and Mrs. G. W. Van Dusen, Capt. and Mrs. Thomas M. Woodruff, Miss Elizabeth Woodruff, Miss Sampson and Capt. and Mrs. H. Marcotte. Referring to the troops at St. Francis Barracks, a correspondent writes: "Everything, except guard duty, was suspended to enable the soldiers to enjoy Thanksgiving dinners. Capts. Hubbell and Van Ness, aided by 1st Sergts. John E. Hogan and Oscar Lind, made their men happy and comfortable. Col. Miller and his staff, Q. M. Todd and Adj't. White saw that the band and every member of the garrison had much to be thankful for, while Surg. Francis J. Ives saw that the patients were thankful that temporary ailments did not prevent their partaking of the delicacies of an hospital Thanksgiving dinner."

FORT BLISS, TEX.

Dec. 4, 1896.

Gen. Adolphus Greely, Chief Signal Officer, visited the post this week and was the guest of Capt. and Mrs. J. Colin Augur. They are old friends, General Greely having belonged to Captain Augur's company some years ago. He is now en route to the City of Mexico, to spend a leave. News was received by Mrs. Moore, of El Paso, this week of the death of her aunt, Mrs. Porter, widow of Capt. Porter, U. S. A., who was stationed at Fort Davis, Tex., at the time of his death. She leaves considerable property in El Paso.

Sergt. Pike and Sergt. Cooke went down the country last week to shoot wild turkeys. While out in the brush they became separated, and Sergt. Pike, hearing the turkeys calling and seeing, as he supposed, the flapping of their wings, fired, but instead of bringing down a fine bird, he found as he hied him quickly to the spot, that it was his comrade's arm he had mistaken for the wing of a turkey, and as his aim was true the shot went through Sergt. Cooke's arm just above the elbow passing through and going on through his forearm making a very painful wound. He had to drive forty-five miles before he could reach the railroad and did not reach the post for nearly forty-eight hours afterward.

The wedding of Mr. Hopper and Miss Zue Ball, of El Paso, this week, was a very brilliant event. The ceremony was performed in the Methodist Church, and afterward a reception was held at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Buckler. Many beautiful presents were received by the bride. They left a few hours afterward for Washington, where Mr. Hopper will assist Col. Allison Mills in making up the report of the findings of the engineers in regard to the International dam, which has to be submitted to the present Congress for approval before an appropriation can be made.

Col. Joseph Hampson, whose marriage with Miss Blanche Wilson recently was such a noted social event, is a frequent visitor to El Paso, his former home for several years. Capt. Alexander Patch, 4th Cav., retired, and son were guests at the post this week of Lieut. and Mrs. Nathaniel McClure.

A cattle pen for loading cattle and horses on to the cars is being built at the post under the direction of the Quartermaster. Gen. Zenas R. Bliss, D. C. M. Comdr., has asked for another troop of cavalry to be sent here. Musician Amos, of the band, after trying to stab his wife, deserted and went to Mexico.

THE EUROPEAN IDEA OF OUR FUTURE.

London, Dec. 1, 1896.

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal":

The struggle of the American people in the late election was watched with the keenest interest from over here. It is not believed on this side of the water that our government can be preserved in its present form, or that our country can be prevented from dividing up into several nationalities without a standing army of greater strength than it now has, or some decided improvement of the National Guard, in the way of unification, discipline and strengthening in its spirit of patriotism and in teaching that supreme loyalty to the general government is its first and most sacred duty. This same general idea is often expressed in a different way. It is said that while we set out to govern ourselves on the utopian plan of using moral influences through the ballot, instead of military force to uphold the government, we foolishly let in the ignorant, and criminal hordes from the oppressed classes in Europe—people who are filled with hatred to authority in all its forms and to whom we give authority equal to our own to control forces upon which we propose to rely as a bulwark of the state. Now it is pointed out that there is danger of the ballot power, which we generously gave away, being used by the anarchistic, turbulent and poor and discontented ele-

ments for remodelling the government to suit their own ends. And it is further pointed out, that the well-to-do and cultured classes—which are composed largely of native Americans—are so indifferent to their civic duties and obligations that the politics of the country has been allowed to go into the hands of these very dangerous classes, who, if they get into power, will either destroy whatever military power they find in the government, or employ it to carry out their own schemes.

Again, a common and favorite expression over here, that our country is too big for its weak form of government, and that is certain to break up on certain "lines of cleavage," assumed to exist between sections, races, classes, or interests. These, it is believed, are becoming so organized in their strength that our small army will give way to them on some occasion of great public excitement like the late election, when the contending forces will become arrayed against each other and when the influences will be so widespread that the National Guard will be involved in them as individuals, and the organizations neutralized as afore, or arrayed against itself by its contending fragments taking up this or that side, or cause, and so on.

And, then, there is the purely military view that is taken of our country's future, taken in connection with the growth of the proposed British Empire. According to this, it will be impossible for the United States ever to become a first-class power if the British Empire becomes organized and sustained upon military lines. This would not be allowed.

Americans can't crow very loud over here nowadays, but we hold up the old flag all the same. E. P. V.

FORTS TRUMBULL AND THOMAS.

The Lyceum season at Fort Trumbull, Conn., includes essays by Capt. F. C. Grugan, 2d Art., "Military Memoirs"; Lieut. M. Crawford, 2d Art., "Military Business and Military Duties at Posts"; Lieut. V. H. Bridgman, 2d Art., "Tactics for Modern Light Artillery."

The Lyceum season at Fort Thomas, Ky., includes essays by Col. M. A. Cochran, 6th Inf., "The General Mess"; Lieut. Col. H. C. Egbert, 6th Inf., "The Influence of Permanent Fortifications on Field Operations"; Maj. C. W. Miner, 6th Inf., "The Condottier"; Capt. S. Baker, 6th Inf., "Routine Duties"; Capt. C. G. Penney, 6th Inf., "The Historical Development of Infantry"; Capt. W. H. H. Crowell, 6th Inf., "The Militia Laws of the United States"; Capt. F. W. Tibbaut, 6th Inf., "Translation—extracts from German Drill Regulations, Referring Mainly to Extended Order"; Capt. G. B. Walker, 6th Inf., "International Law, as Applicable in Time of War"; Capt. B. A. Byrne, 6th Inf., "Generalship, or the Command of Armies"; Capt. A. M. Wetherill, 6th Inf., "Sir Edward Hamley, Soldier and Author"; Capt. Charles Byrne, 6th Inf., "The Passage of Rivers and Mountain Ranges by an Army"; Lieut. Z. W. Torrey, 6th Inf., "Turkey and the Eastern Situation"; Lieut. C. G. Morton, 6th Inf., "The Care of Modern Buildings at Army Posts"; Lieut. E. F. Taggart, 6th Inf., "The Military Customs"; Lieut. B. W. Atkinson, 6th Inf., "The Black Hawk War"; Lieut. C. L. Beckurt, 6th Inf., "The Dog in Modern Warfare"; Lieut. B. A. Poore, 6th Inf., "Target Practice for Infantry"; Lieut. W. K. Jones, 6th Inf., "Torpedoes and Submarine Mines"; Lieut. W. C. Bennett, 12th Inf., "Is the Bicycle Practicable in War Time?" Lieut. H. R. Lee, 6th Inf., "The Franco-German War, 70-71"; Lieut. M. R. Peterson, 7th Inf., "The Regular Army at Different Periods of Our History"; Lieut. W. H. Simons, 6th Inf., "Means of Communication for the Army in the Field"; Lieut. E. T. Cole, 6th Inf., "The Advantage of Military Drill and Discipline in Civilian Schools"; Lieut. W. E. Gleason, 6th Inf., "The Small Arms of Important Powers"; Lieut. S. J. B. Schindel, 6th Inf., "An American Canal"; Lieut. D. W. Ryther, 6th Inf., "Cuba"; Lieut. R. S. Turman, 6th Inf., "Field Training"; Lieut. C. H. Purdy, 6th Inf., "Employment of Troops Against Mobs in Cities"; Lieut. F. C. Boiles, 6th Inf., "The Battle of Friedland."

THE POSSIBILITIES OF MARCHING.

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal":

In your edition of Oct. 17, in Folio 111, you quote from Napier, the marching of Crawford's light division, 100 miles in 26 hours, to the relief of Wellington on the field of Talavera and their taking position in the line of battle ready for immediate action. Is it not barely possible that Napier or his authority was mistaken as to the place from which Crawford took up his line of march? As a soldier of the civil war, I have marched with my regiment 40 miles in 20 hours, and when our destination was reached the command was unfit for anything except rest. The 6th Corps in 20 hours marched 35 miles to the lines of Meade at Gettysburg, and we know that they were of no use for immediate action. This has held good in numerous instances on both sides during the civil war. Jackson's reputation was great for marching his horse infantry, as they were called, but I doubt that even his men traveled four miles an hour and kept that gait up for more than five or six hours at a stretch. If there is other authority than that which you have quoted I should like to know.

GEORGE H. SUYDAM,
Late Captain 162d New York Volunteer Infantry.

FORT SHERIDAN, ILLINOIS.

The hop given on Friday evening, Nov. 27, though an informal one, was well attended and quite a number of friends from Evanston, Lake Forest and Chicago spent the evening here, enjoying the hop with us. Supper was served in the dining room of the mess building. The guests were received by Mrs. Hall, wife of the Colonel of the 4th Infantry, assisted by Mrs. Hein, wife of Capt. Hein, 1st Cav. Miss Knowlton, sister of Lieut. Knowlton, 2d Art., has been spending the Thanksgiving holidays in the post. Mrs. Hein entertained friends at dinner on Thanksgiving eve.

The older children of the garrison have organized a little progressive euchre club to meet on every Friday in turn at the houses of the members. These consist of Miss Helen Bubb, Misses Helen and Jennie Wainwright, Miss Henrietta Robinson, and Messrs. John and Joe Bubb, Charles Mason, Aubrey Lippencott, Mayhew Wainwright and George Robinson. The week of cold weather made good skating on the ponds near the post, but now they are covered with snow and small boys look sad.

Capt. W. C. Brown, lately promoted, spent the 26th among his friends here. He is on his way to Fort Sill to take command of Troop E, 1st Cav. He will stop a day at Riley to ship his horse and gather his belongings. Capt. Aleshire, Q. M., visited in the post last week; also Lieut. J. F. R. Landis, 1st Cav.

The great event of interest during the past week in the garrison was the ball given on the 4th by Gen. Merritt, at the Auditorium in Chicago. All the officers and ladies of the post were invited and all that could accept were glad to avail themselves of the privilege. The officer of the day and officers of the Guard were left in charge of the post, and a few others did not attend on account of sickness, being in mourning, etc. It was a most brilliant affair, and will be long remembered in Chicago society. The Young Ladies' Reading Class met at the home of Miss Minor on Monday afternoon. Miss Lois Vielé has been spending some weeks here with her brother, Maj. C. D. Vielé. The Euchre Club met Friday evening with Miss Helen Bubb, and the prize was taken by Miss Kassie Strong, who was a visitor for a day or two with her young friends. H.

FORT RENO.

Nov. 30, 1896.

A hard fought football game took place here between the Fort Reno and Fort Sill teams on Thanksgiving day, resulting in a score of 14 to 12 in favor of Fort Reno. This leaves the Fort Reno team the champion of the territory, having defeated all opposing teams. The following is the line-up:

	Position.	Fort Sill
Hooker.	Center.	Joyce
Bruner.	Right Guard.	Joyce
Egan.	Left Guard.	Berry
Hilbert.	Right Tackle.	Burbank
Martin.	Left Tackle.	Munzy
Martina.	Right End.	Liman
Burwinkle.	Left End.	Featherstone
Edwards.	Right Half.	Smith
Butcher.	Left Half.	Newt
Van Vliet.	Quarterback.	Ashley
Slusher.	Full Back.	Keyes
Referee—Lieut. Lacey.		
Umpire—Lieut. Saltzman.		

One of the swellest social functions of the year at this post was the reception and ball given at the post hall last Tuesday night in honor of Lieuts. Lacey and Crawford, whose recent promotion takes them from the regiment, much to the regret of the garrison. Among the guests were Messrs. and Mesdames Bainbridge Smith, Van Vliet, Koops, Barber and Offley, Mrs. Barrett, Misses Barrett, Crawford, Tripp and Dusenberry, Col. Lincoln, Maj. Robinson, Capts. Force, Stretch and Galbraith and Lieuts. Kerby, Berkeley and Saltzman. Capt. McMartin, Q. M. D.; Col. Simon Snider, 19th Inf.; Lieut. W. H. Wilhelm, 14th Inf., and Lieut. A. G. Berry, 10th Inf., were recent visitors on the post. Lieut. H. H. Tebbets, recently transferred from the 12th Infantry to the 10th, arrived on the post Thanksgiving day. Lieut. J. H. Shollenberger, Q. M., 10th Inf., is expected back from leave on the 10th inst.

JEFFERSON BARRACKS.

Tuesday the band concert attracted a large number of people to the mess hall, where it was held. Thursday the officers' hop was largely attended, many coming from town. Thanksgiving evening Troop A, 3d Cav., Capt. Mackay, gave a full-dress ball. The decorations of the hall were tastefully arranged, and the supper a good one. The question as to the purchase of Arcadia, for which \$18,000 was allowed by Congress, is in abeyance, but it is not settled whether or not the men who were at the Carbine range last summer contracted typhoid fever from there or not. A large number of those sick shows something wrong, if not there, some place. The hospital now occupied is very old and decayed, and its occupancy may be the cause of this illness. As to the cause, the doctors seem to disagree, and when that is the case who is to decide. It is understood a board is to be ordered to look into matters. The substitution of battles of the war instead of essays will be an agreeable change. Officers are placed on opposing sides, in each case, and are to show dispositions made by their sides, tactical or strategical errors, etc., and to bring out discussions based on results. The following might give rise to discussion: That "Lee's Gettysburg campaign was a mistake in its strategical conception, and conduct, and in its tactical execution." That "the choice of the overland line of operations instead of the Peninsular line in Grant's operations in 1864, was a mistake."

In the above a great many pros and cons exist, which would lead to much thoughtful study. In the case of a man's "getting there," the manner, however, is not often taken into account.

GEN. TOM WILSON'S GRANDSON.

(From the Jefferson Barracks "Item.")

George Boughton, Jr., son of Capt. Boughton, 3d Cav., has been living at military posts all his life, and he can ride on a dead gallop with any of his father's men. Kitte, the pony, is as fond of her little master as he is of her, and to hear him say:

"Now, Kitte, don't get smart!" is convincing proof that there is the best understanding between rider and horse. Five years ago little George, then a toddler of 3, lived with his parents at Fort Reno.

"That's the time I was bitten by a mad dog," said George, narrating the first adventure of his young life, "and then I had to go to New York to be treated."

"Pasteur?" I suggested.

"I don't know; some kind of a 'stew.'"

But the bite of a mad dog nor the Pasteur treatment have taken the vim out of little George. His father says of him that he can ride like a wild Indian, and he sometimes allows the daring little chap to drill along with the men.

Secretary Carlisle on Monday sent to Congress the estimates of appropriations required for the public service of the fiscal year ending June 3, 1898, as furnished by the several executive departments. The estimates foot up \$1,718,970.60, against \$418,092,073.17, estimated for 1897-98, and \$432,431,005.98 appropriated for that year. The estimates for 1898 by title are:

Legislative establishment	\$4,379,820.80
Executive establishment	19,865,932.00
Judicial establishment	967,120.00
Naval establishment	2,082,728.76
Foreign intercourse	24,292,638.48
Military establishment	32,434,773.62
Indian affairs	7,279,525.87
Pensions	141,328,380.00
Public works	31,437,061.92
Postal service	1,283,334.47
Miscellaneous	36,344,216.68
Permanent annual appropriations	120,078,220.00
Grand totals	\$421,718,070.60

THE ARMY.

DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secy of War. J. B. DOD, Asst. Secy.

H. Q. A. A., G. O. Dec. 7, 1896.

Appointments, promotions, etc., of commissioned officers recorded in the A. G. O. during the week ending Saturday, Dec. 5, 1896.

APPOINTMENT.

Quartermaster's Department.

1st Lieut. Thomas Cruse, Q. M., 6th Cav., to be Assistant Quartermaster with the rank of Captain, Dec. 1, 1896, vice Patten, promoted.

Casualty.

Post Chaplain Malnor C. Blaine, died Nov. 30, 1896, at Fort Ringgold, Texas.

GEO. D. RUGGLES, Adjt. Gen.

G. O. 12 NOV. 30, 1896, DEPT. CALIFORNIA.

Publishes tables exhibiting the result of small arms practice in the Department of California, for the season of 1896.

G. O. 21. NOV. 17, 1896, DEPT. PLATTE.

Publishes the report of the Inspector of Small-Arms Practice with accompanying tables of the troops serving in this department.

G. O. 49 Dec. 5, 1896. H. Q. A. A. G. O.

The following order has been received from the War Department:

War Department, Washington, Dec. 5, 1896.

Under the authority vested in him by section 1146, Revised Statutes, the President hereby establishes an emergency ration for troops operating for short periods under circumstances which require them to depend upon supplies carried upon their persons. Its component parts are as follows: Bacon, 10 ounces; hard bread, 16 ounces; pea-meal, 4 ounces, or an equivalent in approved material for making soup; coffee, roasted and ground, 2 ounces, or tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; saccharin, 4 grains; salt, .64 ounce; pepper, .04 ounce; tobacco, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

DANIEL S. LAMONT,

Secretary of War.

The Secretary of War directs that this emergency ration be resorted to only on occasions arising in active operations when the use of the regularly established ration may be impracticable; that, although its nutritive qualities permit its use on half allowance, it will not be so used except in cases of overruling necessity, and never for a longer period than ten days; and that not more than five days' emergency rations be carried on the person at one time.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Subsistence Department will provide tough paraffin paper for wrapping the bacon; will furnish hard bread in grease-proof packages, the pea-meal in cylindrical packages, and the coffee, tea, saccharin, salt, pepper, and tobacco in suitable packages.

By Command of Maj. Gen. Miles:

GEO. D. RUGGLES, Adjt. Gen.

G. O. 14. DEC. 4 1896. D. CALIFORNIA.

Prescribes drills for the heavy batteries of the 3d Artillery stationed at Angel Island, Alcatraz and Fort Mason, beginning Dec. 7, until Dec. 20.

STAFF DEPARTMENTS.

Leave for one month to take effect about Dec. 20, 1896, is granted 1st Lieut. William H. Wilson, Asst. Surg. (Fort Bayard, N. M.) (S. O. 100, D. C., Nov. 28.)

Maj. Calvin DeWitt, Surg., is assigned to duty at Fort Monroe, and will relieve Maj. Edward B. Moseley, Surg. (Artillery School, Dec. 3.)

Leave for two months is granted Maj. John Simpson, Q. M. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

Maj. Allan H. Jackson, Paymr., will repair to Washington as soon as practicable after his relief from recruiting service at Albany, N. Y., and will report for duty to the Paymaster General of the Army. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

Pavement of troops for the muster of Nov. 30, will be made by Lieut. Col. George W. Canoe, Chief Paymr., at Rock Island Arsenal, Indianapolis Arsenal, Forts Thomas, Wayne and Brady, and any troops temporarily absent; by Maj. George W. Baird, Paymr., at Fort Sheridan, Columbus Barracks, Forts Leavenworth and Reno, and any troops temporarily absent; by Maj. Charles McClure, Paymr., at the Army and Navy General Hospital, the new post near Little Rock, Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis Powder Depot, Forts Riley and Sill, and any troops temporarily absent. (S. O. 201, D. M., Nov. 24.)

Leave for one month, on Surgeon's certificate, with permission to leave the Department of Dakota and to apply to the proper authority for an extension of three months, is granted Maj. William C. Shannon, Surg. U. S. A., Fort Custer, Mont. (S. O. 163, D. D., Dec. 2.)

1st Lieut. James M. Kennedy, Asst. Surg., Fort Missoula, Mont., will proceed to Fort Custer, Mont., for temporary duty at that post. (S. O. 163, D. D., Dec. 2.)

Capt. Frank E. Hobbs, Ord. Dept., will proceed from Watertown Arsenal, Mass., to the works of the Bethlehem Iron Company, South Bethlehem, Penn., on official business. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

Par. 3, S. O. 260, Nov. 4, 1896, H. Q. A., relating to Capt. Frank E. Hobbs, Ord. Dept., is revoked, in consequence of his change of station from Watertown Arsenal, N. Y., to Watertown Arsenal, Mass. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

1st Lieut. Tracy C. Dickson, Ord. Dept., will proceed from Springfield Armory, Mass., to the works of the American Ordnance Company, Bridgeport, Conn., on official business. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

Leave for one month, to take effect on Dec. 8, is granted 1st Lieut. Paul F. Straub, Asst. Surg. (S. O. 149, D. C., Nov. 28.)

Payments to troops on the muster of Nov. 30, 1896, are assigned to paymasters as follows: Maj. Alfred E. Bates: Fort Mason and the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.; Maj. John S. Witcher: Alcatraz Island, Angel Island, Benicia Barracks, Benicia Arsenal and San Diego Barracks, Cal. (S. O. 150, D. C., Nov. 30.)

Under G. O. 80, series of 1890, the Commanding Officer, Fort Niagara, will grant Asting Hospital Steward Abraham L. Stewart, a furlough for three months, to terminate March 18, 1897. (S. O. 285, D. E., Dec. 7.)

The leave granted Capt. Ashton B. Heyl, Asst. Surg., is extended seven days. (S. O. 207, D. M., Dec. 2.)

Post Chaplain Leslie R. Groves, U. S. A., will be relieved from temporary duty at Plattsburgh Barracks, New York, and will then proceed to Vancouver Barracks, Washington, for duty. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

Capt. Ira MacNutt, Ord. Dept., will make during December, 1896, not exceeding four visits from South Bethlehem, Pa., to the Carpenter Steel Works, Reading, Pa., on official business. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

Permission to be absent from his station for fifteen days from about Dec. 1, 1896, for the purpose of hunting, is granted Post Chaplain Walter Marvine, U. S. A. (S. O. 195, D. C., Nov. 27.)

Lieut. Col. Frank M. Coxe, Deputy Paymr. Gen., will proceed from Portland, Ore., to Vancouver Barracks, Wash., and return, on Dec. 1, 1896, for payment of clerks and messengers at these headquarters. (S. O. 195, D. C., Nov. 27.)

Capt. H. D. Snyder, Asst. Surg., is detailed post treasurer and librarian. (Fort Ethan Allen, Dec. 8.)

The following assignment of paymasters is made for the payments due Nov. 30, 1896: Lieut. Col. Frank M. Coxe, Deputy Paymr. Gen., at Vancouver Barracks and Fort Canby, Wash.; Maj. Charles E. Kilbourne, Paymr. at Forts Walla Walla and Spokane, Wash., Fort Sherman and Boise Barracks, Idaho. (S. O. 195, D. C., Nov. 27.)

Maj. Charles R. Barnett, Q. M., will proceed from Cheyenne, Wyo., to Hanna, Wyo., on official business. (H. Q. A., Dec. 10.)

Post Chaplain Sewell N. Pilchard, is relieved from duty at Fort Huachuca, Arizona Territory, and will report in person to the C. O., Fort Bayard, New Mexico, for duty. (H. Q. A., Dec. 8.)

The operation of par. 3, S. O. 273, Nov. 19, 1896, H. Q. A., relating to 1st Lieut. Benjamin Brooke, Asst. Surg., is suspended until further orders. (H. Q. A., Dec. 8.)

Maj. Charles W. Williams, Q. M., will proceed from Schuylkill Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa., to New York City on official business pertaining to the manufacture of clothing for the Quartermaster's Department. (H. Q. A., Dec. 8.)

CAVALRY, ARTILLERY AND INFANTRY.

1st CAVALRY.—COL. ABRAM K. ARNOLD.

The following transfers in the 1st Cavalry are made: 1st Lieut. George W. Goode, from Troop K to H; 1st Lieut. Clough Overton, from Troop H to K. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

1st Lieut. John D. L. Hartman, 1st Cav., upon being relieved as recruiting officer at Evansville, Ind., will proceed to Albany, N. Y., and assume charge of the recruiting station in that city, relieving 1st Lieut. Marion B. Safford, 13th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

2d CAVALRY.—COLONEL GEORGE G. HUNT.

Leave for three months is granted 2d Lieut. Mathew C. Smith, 2d Cav. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

The leave granted Capt. Alfred M. Fuller, 2d Cav., is extended seven days. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

3d CAVALRY.—COL. ANSON MILLS.

The following promotions were on Dec. 1 made in the 3d Cavalry: Corp. William DuRow, Troop M, to be Sergeant, vice Whelan transferred; Corp. Joseph L. McGree, Troop M, to be Sergeant, vice Pollard reduced. The following appointment was made: Lance Corp. John McKeag, Troop B, to be Corporal, vice Krueger reduced.

The following appointments in the 3d Cavalry were made on Dec. 3: Pvt. James P. Case, Troop F, to be Corporal, vice Platt discharged; Pvt. Eulic Frazer, Troop F, to be Corporal, vice Graves reduced; Pvt. John J. Lenney, Troop F, to be Corporal, vice Crissey discharged.

Sergt. William Lehman, Troop K, 3d Cav., was on Dec. 4 relieved from special duty as steward of the General Mess and Sergt. Frank Maricle, Troop B, detailed in his stead.

Pvt. William B. Benson, Troop H, 3d Cav., was on Dec. 3, detailed on special duty as Assistant Cook in the General Mess.

4th CAVALRY.—COL. CHAS. E. COMPTON.

A board of officers to consist of Maj. Michael Cooney, 4th Cav., and 1st Lieut. George H. Cameron, 4th Cav., Q. M., is appointed to meet at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1896, at 1 o'clock P. M., to receive eighteen horses for the 4th Cavalry. (S. O. 197, D. C., Nov. 30.)

5th CAVALRY.—COL. JAMES F. WADE.

Troop B, 5th Cav. (Watts'), Fort Clark, and Troop C, 5th Cav. (Swift's, commanded by Macomb), Fort McIn- tosh, will exchange stations by marching. The march will be so conducted that the troops will arrive at Indio Ranch on Friday, Dec. 18, 1896. (G. O. 21, D. T., Nov. 30.)

The following transfers in the 5th Cavalry are made: 1st Lieut. John M. Jenkins, from Troop I to M; 1st Lieut. Richmond McA. Schofield, from Troop M to I. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

6th CAVALRY.—COL. SAMUEL S. SUMNER.

Leave for two days is granted Lieut. B. B. Hyer, 6th Cav. (Fort Myer, Dec. 3.)

Corp. A. E. Moulds, H, 6th Cav., has been promoted Sergeant and Lance Corp. H. G. Vetterlein, appointed Corporal.

Capt. George L. Scott, 6th Cav., is detailed as Acting Indian Agent at the La Pointe Agency, Ashland, Wis., to succeed 1st Lieut. William A. Mercer, 8th Inf., who is relieved at his own request, and will join his company. (H. Q. A., Dec. 8.)

9th CAVALRY.—COL. DAVID PERRY.

The following transfers in the 9th Cav., are made: 2d Lieut. Matthew A. Batson, from Troop M to G; 2d Lieut. Julian R. Lindsey, from Troop G to M. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

Capt. Jerauld A. Olmsted, 9th Cav., will report in person, Dec. 31, to the Governor of Iowa, at Des Moines, Iowa, for duty with the National Guard of that State. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

The retirement from active service by operation of law of Lieut. Col. James F. Randlett, 9th Cav., is announced. (H. Q. A., Dec. 8.)

10th CAVALRY.—COL. JOHN K. MIZNER.

Leave for one month, to take effect about Dec. 20, 1896, is granted 1st Lieut. Charles B. Hughes, 10th Cav., Fort Custer, Mont. (S. O. 162, D. D., Nov. 28.)

1st ARTILLERY.—COL. ROYAL T. FRANK.

Leave for one month on Surgeon's certificate, is granted 2d Lieut. Sawyer Blanchard, 1st Art. (S. O. 148, D. T., Dec. 1.)

Lieut. Gov. Van Deusen, 1st Art., is appointed Exchange Officer. (St. Francis Barracks, Dec. 2.)

Lieut. J. P. Tracy, 1st Art., is detailed Post Librarian. (Key West Barracks, Nov. 29.)

Sergt. E. Seifert, L, 1st Art., will proceed to join his battery at Fort Barrancas. (Fort Wadsworth, Dec. 7.)

2d ARTILLERY.—COL. ALEX. C. M. PENNINGTON.

Leave for seven days with permission to apply for extension of twenty-three days is granted 1st Lieut. W. A. Simpson, 2d Art. (Fort Adams, Dec. 7.)

Principal Musician R. J. Mills, 2d Art., transferred as Private to Band 5th Art., will proceed to Fort Hamilton. (Fort Adams, Dec. 5.)

In a recent post order, Col. Pennington directs that "At retreat and while the band is playing the 'Star-Spangled Banner,' the batteries will be kept at attention, and that enlisted men not in ranks and officers out of doors, but inside the fort, will stand at attention and face the flag which is being lowered."

3d ARTILLERY.—COL. EDMUND C. BAINBRIDGE.

2d Lieut. Henry D. Todd, Jr., 3d Art., will report for examination at Fort Monroe. (H. Q. A., Dec. 10.)

4th ARTILLERY.—COL. FRANCIS L. GUNTHER.

Leave for three days is granted 1st Lieut. J. E. McMahon, 4th Art. (Fort Monroe, Dec. 5.)

Lieut. A. S. Fleming, 4th Art., is detailed counsel in case before G. C. M. (Washington Barracks, Dec. 4.)

5th ARTILLERY.—COL. WM. M. GRAHAM.

1st Lieut. G. N. Whistler, 5th Art., is temporarily attached to Battery M; 2d Lieut. T. W. Winston, is relieved from duty with Battery M. (Fort Slocum, Dec. 3.)

Leave for three days is granted Lieut. S. S. Jordan, 5th Art. (Fort Adams, Dec. 5.)

2d Lieut. G. G. Gatley, 5th Art., will proceed to Jersey City, N. J., and take charge of the special regimental recruiting station at 49 Montgomery street, in that city during the temporary absence of Capt. E. Van A. Andrus, 1st Art., at Fort Monroe, Va. (S. O. 286, D. E., Dec. 8.)

Sergt. Hugh Tobin, M, 5th Art., is detailed Drill Instructor of Recruits. (Fort Slocum, Dec. 1.)

Pvt. Thos. Bennett, M, 5th Art., has been appointed Corporal.

Leave for twenty days is granted 2d Lieut. Thomas W. Winston, 5th Art. (S. O. 284, D. E., Dec. 5.)

Leave for two days is granted Capt. A. W. Vogdes, 5th Art. (Fort Wadsworth, Dec. 5.)

Corp. O. E. Weber, Battery B, 5th Art., is detailed temporarily as Mess Steward. (Fort Slocum, Nov. 24.)

1st INFANTRY.—COL. WILLIAM R. SHAFTER.

Leave for thirty days, to take effect on or about Dec. 5, is granted 2d Lieut. Lincoln F. Kilbourne, 1st Inf. (S. O. 149, D. C., Nov. 28.)

2d INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN C. BATES.

1st Lieut. Harry E. Wilkins, 2d Inf., at his own request, is relieved from duty with the National Guard of Iowa, to take effect Dec. 31, 1896, and will then proceed to join his company. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

Leave for two months is granted 1st Lieut. Harry E. Wilkins, 2d Inf., to take effect upon his relief from duty with the National Guard of Iowa. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

4th INFANTRY.—COL. ROBERT H. HALL.

The leave granted 2d Lieut. Joseph C. Castner, 4th Inf., is further extended three days. (S. O. 207, D. M., Dec. 2.)

5th INFANTRY.—COL. WILLIAM L. KELLOGG.

Leave for one month, to take effect about Dec. 20, is granted 2d Lieut. Lutz Wahl, 5th Inf. (S. O. 283, D. E., Dec. 4.)

Leave for one month, to take effect in January, 1897, upon the return of his Captain from leave, is granted 1st Lieut. Frank G. Kalk, 5th Inf. (S. O. 287, D. E., Dec. 9.)

6th INFANTRY.—COL. MELVILLE A. COCHRAN.

Leave for ten days, to take effect about Dec. 23, is granted 2d Lieut. D. W. Ryther, 6th Inf. (S. O. 285, D. E., Dec. 7.)

Lieuts. S. J. B. Schindel and R. S. Turman, 6th Inf., are relieved from temporary duty with other companies and will join their proper companies. (Fort Thomas, Dec. 2.)

Leave for seven days with permission to apply for extension of twenty-three days is granted 1st Lieut. W. K. Jones, 6th Inf. (Fort Thomas, Dec. 4.)

7th INFANTRY.—COL. HENRY C. MERRIAM.

2d Lieut. William C. Rogers, 7th Inf., is detailed at Willets Point, New York, for instruction in torpedo service during the term which commenced Dec. 1, 1896. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

Leave for one month to take effect Dec. 1, 1896, is granted 2d Lieut. William C. Rogers, 7th Inf. (Fort Logan, Colo.). (S. O. 101, D. C., Nov. 30.)

8th INFANTRY.—COL. JAS. J. VAN HORN.

The seven days' leave granted 1st Lieut. Edward N. Jones, Adjt., 8th Inf., is extended twenty days. (S. O. 113, D. P., Dec. 28.)

9th INFANTRY.—COL. W. J. LYSTER.

1st Sergt. G. Bailey, D, 9th Inf., will be granted a furlough for three months under G. O. 80. (S. O. 284, D. E., Dec. 5.)

10th INFANTRY.—COL. EDWARD F. PEARSON.

1st Lieut. Bogardus Eldridge, 10th Inf., is detailed as Advocate of the G. C. M. convened at Fort Sill, O. T., by pa. 6. S. O. 196, c. s., these headquarters, vice 2d Lieut. William T. Schenck, 10th Inf., relieved from that duty, during the trial of Post of Q. M. Sergt. John T. Barbere, only. (S. O. 206, D. M., Dec. 1.)

11th INFANTRY.—COL. ISAAC D. DE RUSSY.

1st Lieut. Lorenzo P. Davison, 11th Inf., is relieved from duty under the orders of the Commanding General Department of the Colorado, and will proceed to post near Little Rock, Ark., and join his company. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

The following appointment was on Dec. 3 made in Co. E, 11th Inf.: Pvt. Herbert L. Banton, to be Corporal, vice Caskate, discharged.

12th INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN N. ANDREWS.

The following appointments were on Nov. 30 made in the 12th Inf.: Co. A, Pvt. Dewey H. Anderson, to be Corporal, vice Green, reduced; Co. B, Lance Corp. Patrick Condon, to be Corporal, vice Chandler, discharged.

13th INFANTRY.—COL. ALFRED T. SMITH.

Lance Corp. M. E. Concannon has been appointed Corporal in Co. E, Corp. J. Dunworth promoted Sergeant and Pvt. F. L. Smith appointed Corporal in Co. H.

2d Lieut. Paul B. Malone, 13th Inf., is detailed as counsel for Pvt. Irvin Elms, Co. A, before the G. C. M. at Fort Porter. (S. O. 286, D. E., Dec. 8.)

Lieut. L. H. Bash, 13th Inf., having reported, is attached to Co. A. (Fort Porter, Dec. 4.)</div

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able travel detention from returning to their proper stations, Fort Sherman, Idaho, until after two days after the expiration of a leave granted, the days of such detention will be considered as days of leave. (S. O. 194, D. C., Nov. 25.)

Leave for twenty days, to take effect about Dec. 21, 1896, is granted 2d Lieut. John F. Preston, Jr., 16th Inf. (S. O. 195, D. C., Nov. 27.)

17th INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN S. POLAND.

Lieut. H. G. Lyon, 17th Inf., is relieved from temporary duty with Co. F. (Columbus Barracks, Dec. 4.)

Leave for one month, to take effect about Dec. 20, is granted 2d Lieut. D. M. Michie, 17th Inf. (S. O. 285, D. C., Dec. 7.)

Leave for fifteen days, to take effect about Dec. 15, is granted 2d Lieut. Benjamin F. Hardaway, 17th Inf. (S. O. 287, D. C., Dec. 9.)

18th INFANTRY.—COL. DAVID D. VAN VALZAH.

Leave for four months, to take effect on or about Dec. 10, 1896, with permission to apply for an extension of two months, is granted 1st Lieut. Edward S. Avis, Q. M., 18th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

19th INFANTRY.—COL. SIMON SNYDER.

Par. 1, S. O. 184, c. s., granting leave to Lieut. Col. Charles A. Wikoff, 19th Inf., to take effect about Dec. 1, 1896, is amended so as to authorize him to take advantage of the leave about Dec. 15. (S. O. 206, D. M., Dec. 1.)

20th INFANTRY.—COL. HAMILTON S. HAWKINS.

1st Lieut. John L. Sehon, 20th Inf., A. D. C., Acting Engineer Officer, will proceed to Portland, Ore., and return. (S. O. 193, D. C., Nov. 23.)

1st Lieut. Edwin H. Webber, 20th Inf., having been found by an Army retiring board incapacitated for active service, is retired, under the provisions of section 1251, Revised Statutes. (H. Q. A., Dec. 7.)

21st INFANTRY.—COL. HORACE JEWETT.

The extension of leave granted Capt. Willis Wittich, 21st Inf., is still further extended fifteen days, on account of sickness. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

Lance Corp. D. Shields, G, 21st Inf., has been appointed Corporal.

22d INFANTRY.—COL. JAMES S. CASEY.

The extension of leave granted 1st Lieut. Tredwell W. Moore, 22d Inf., is further extended one month. (H. Q. A., Dec. 2.)

24th INFANTRY.—COL. JACOB F. KENT.

Leave for four months, to take effect on or about Dec. 15, 1896, is granted Capt. William H. W. James, 24th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION.

A board of officers is appointed to meet, at the call of the president thereof, at Fort Monroe, Va., for the examination of such officers as may be ordered before it, to determine their fitness for promotion. Detail: Lieut. Col. Henry C. Hasbrouck, 4th Art.; Maj. Calvin DeWitt, Surg.; Maj. William H. Corbusier, Surg.; Maj. John L. Tierney, 1st Art.; Capt. James M. Ingalls, 1st Art.; 1st Lieut. Charles L. Phillips, 4th Art., Recorder. The following-named officers are ordered to report before the above board for examination as to their fitness for promotion: Capt. E. Van Arsdale Andrus, 1st Art.; Capt. Charles Morris, 5th Art.; Capt. Junius W. MacMurray, 1st Art. (H. Q. A., Dec. 3.)

A board of officers is appointed to meet at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 9, to examine into and report upon the qualifications of Sergt. Stanislas M. Neisser, Troop I, 4th Cav., and other Sergeants at the post at may be eligible and desirous of the position, for appointment as Post Quartermaster Sergeants, U. S. A. Detail: Lieut. Col. Edward B. Williston, 3d Art.; Capt. James Locket, 4th Cav.; 1st Lieut. Leon S. Roudiez, Q. M., 1st Inf. (S. O. 149, D. C., Nov. 28.)

The following named officers will report to Lieut. Col. Joseph T. Haskell, 17th Inf., president of the examining board at Fort Leavenworth, for examination as to their fitness for promotion: 1st Lieut. Lewis D. Greene, 7th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Lyman W. V. Kennon, 6th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

The following named officers will report to Lieut. Col. Joseph T. Haskell, 17th Inf., president of the examining board appointed to meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., for examination as to their fitness for promotion: 1st Lieut. Daniel A. Frederick, Adj't., 7th Inf.; 1st Lieut. John S. Mallory, 2d Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

The following named officers will report in person to Col. William R. Shafter, 1st Inf., president of the examining board at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., for examination as to their fitness for promotion: 1st Lieut. J. F. Reynolds Landis, 1st Cav.; 1st Lieut. Louis P. Brant, Adj't., 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. James A. Maney, 15th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Reuben B. Turner, 6th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

The board of officers convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., by S. O. 144, June 19, 1896, H. Q. A., for the examination of officers, is dissolved, and all orders, circulars, books, etc., in the possession of the board, will be turned over to Lieut. Col. Joseph T. Haskell, 17th Inf., president of the examining board appointed by S. O. 280, Nov. 28, 1896, H. Q. A. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

So much of par. 18, S. O. 208, Sept. 3, 1896, H. Q. A., as directs 2d Lieuts. George T. Langhorne, 3d Cav., and Francis C. Marshall, 8th Cav., to report for examination by the board appointed to meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., is revoked, by reason of the dissolution of the board. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

2d Lieuts. George T. Langhorne, 3d Cav., and Francis C. Marshall, 8th Cav., will report in person to Lieut. Col. Joseph T. Haskell, 17th Inf., president of the examining board appointed to meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., for examination as to their fitness for promotion. (H. Q. A., Dec. 5.)

A board of officers to consist of Maj. Michael Cooney, 4th Cav.; Capt. James B. Erwin, 4th Cav.; 1st Lieut. Cecil Stewart, 4th Cav., and Acting Q. M. of Regiment, will convene at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 2, 1896, to examine into the qualifications of Q. M. Sergt. Thomas F. Patton, 4th Cav., and other candidates, for appointment to the position of Post Quartermaster Sergeant, U. S. A. (S. O. 195, D. C., Nov. 27.)

COURTS MARTIAL.

At Fort Niobrara, Neb., Dec. 1. Detail: Lieut. Col. Richard Comba, 12th Inf.; Maj. Henry H. Humphreys, 12th Inf.; Capt. James Halloran, 12th Inf.; Capt. Harry L. Haskell, 12th Inf.; Capt. Palmer G. Wood, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Charles C. Ballou, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. William G. Elliot, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Mark L. Hersey, 12th Inf.; 2d Lieut. William M. Wood, 12th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Wallis O. Clark, 12th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 112, D. C., Nov. 27.)

At Fort Porter, N. Y., Dec. 7. Detail: Col. Alfred T. Smith, 13th Inf.; Capt. Benjamin H. Rogers, 13th Inf.; Capt. John B. Guthrie, 13th Inf.; Capt. Aaron H. Appel, Asst. Surg.; Capt. Jesse C. Chance, 13th Inf.; 1st Lieut. William R. Sample, 13th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Louis H. Bash, 13th Inf.; 2d Lieut. William Newman, 13th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 283, D. E., Dec. 4.)

At Plattsburgh Barracks, N. Y., Dec. 11. Detail: Maj.

John N. Coe, 21st Inf.; Capt. Stephen P. Joselyn, 21st Inf.; Capt. William H. Boyle, 21st Inf.; Capt. Daniel Corman, 21st Inf.; Capt. Francis E. Eltonhead, 21st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Harry L. Bailey, 21st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Solomon E. Sparrow, 21st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Francis J. Kerna, 21st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Almon L. Parmerter, 21st Inf.; 2d Lieut. Ralph H. Van Deman, 21st Inf.; 2d Lieut. William H. Mullay, 21st Inf.; 2d Lieut. Frank H. Lawton, 21st Inf.; 2d Lieut. Louis M. Nutman, 21st Inf., and 1st Lieut. Edward W. McCaskey, 21st Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 285, D. E., Dec. 7.)

At Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., Dec. 14. Detail: Capt. George A. Dodd, 3d Cav.; Capt. Henry D. Snyder, Asst. Surg.; Capt. Henry L. Ripley, 3d Cav.; Capt. Franklin O. Johnson, 3d Cav.; 1st Lieut. Alexander L. Dade, 3d Cav.; 2d Lieut. Lincoln C. Andrews, 3d Cav.; 2d Lieut. George W. Moses, 3d Cav., and 1st Lieut. Daniel L. Tate, 3d Cav. Judge Adv. (S. O. 287, D. E., Dec. 9.)

At Benicia Barracks, Cal., Dec. 1. Detail: Lieut. Col. Evan Miles, 1st Inf.; Maj. Curtis E. Munn, Surg.; Capt. Leopold O. Parker, 1st Inf.; Capt. James S. Petitt, 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Frank O. Ferris, 1st Inf.; 2d Lieut. Lincoln F. Kilbourne, 1st Inf.; 2d Lieut. James N. Pickering, 1st Inf.; 1st Lieut. Robert H. Noble, 1st Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 148, D. C., Nov. 25.)

At Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Dec. 5. Detail: Maj. Henry J. Nowlan, 7th Cav.; Capt. Casper H. Conrad, 15th Inf.; Capt. Peter S. Bonnus, 1st Cav.; Capt. Luther B. Hare, 7th Cav.; Capt. Thomas F. Davis, 15th Inf.; Capt. John Pitcher, 1st Cav.; 1st Lieut. Sedgwick Rice, 7th Cav.; 1st Lieut. Edmund S. Wright, 1st Cav.; 1st Lieut. Alexander S. Porter, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Matthew C. Butler, Jr., 7th Cav.; 2d Lieut. John O'Shea, 7th Cav.; 2d Lieut. Newton D. Kirkpatrick, 1st Cav.; 2d Lieut. Herschel Tupes, 15th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Harry J. Hirsch, 15th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 101, D. C., Nov. 30.)

At Fort Reno, O. T., Dec. 1, 1896. Detail: Maj. Augustus H. Bainbridge, Capt. Joel T. Kirkman, John F. Stretch, 10th Inf.; Jacob G. Galbraith, 1st Cav.; 1st Lieuts. Robert C. Van Vliet, Carl Koops, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieuts. Hugh D. Berkeley, Charles McK. Saltzman, 1st Cav.; Harry H. Tebbets, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Robert S. Offley, 10th Inf., J. A. (S. O. 203, D. M., Nov. 27.)

A board of officers to consist of Lieut. Col. Guy V. Henry, 3d Cav.; Lieut. Col. Albert Hartson, Deputy Surg. Gen.; Maj. Joseph B. Girard, Surg.; 1st Lieut. Tyree R. Rivers, Q. M., 3d Cav., is appointed to meet at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., at 11 o'clock A. M., Dec. 16, 1896, for the purpose of making a thorough and rigid examination of the reservation of Jefferson Barracks in all its conditions as to its availability for a permanent military station. (S. O. 207, D. M., Dec. 2.)

The seven days' leave granted 1st Lieut. Charles C. Walcutt, Jr., Q. M., 8th Cav., is extended twenty-three days. (S. O. 112, D. P., Nov. 27.)

NAVAL PERSONNEL LEGISLATION.

An important meeting of the Naval Line Committee was held on last Saturday night at the Arlington Hotel, in Washington. About twenty-five officers were present, and there was considerable discussion in regard to questions of personnel. As a result, a resolution was adopted appointing a committee to secure the passage of a bill which was agreed upon during the meeting. This bill differs in some essential particulars from that which the Line Committee supported last year, and omits certain features contained in the latter which were considered objectionable by some of the older line officers. The chairman of the committee appointed to look out for the interests of the Line Committee is Capt. William T. Sampson. The bill provides for the abolition of the grade of Commodore, and promotes officers at present occupying that grade to be rear admirals. There are seven grades of commissioned line officers provided for—rear admiral, captain, commander, lieutenant commander, lieutenant, lieutenant (junior grade), and ensign. The number of such officers on the active list is limited to 16 rear admirals, 60 captains, 70 commanders, 100 lieutenant commanders, 250 lieutenants, 75 lieutenants of the junior grade, and a number of ensigns sufficient to maintain the total number of officers on the active list of the line at a number not greater than now fixed by law. Provision is made that on the first day of July of each year a sufficient number of graduates of the Naval Academy to fill the vacancies in the total number of officers shall be commissioned as ensigns. That not more than 35 shall be so commissioned from any one class.

A section of the bill permits the retirement of any captain or commander who served during the war upon his own application, the officer to receive upon such retirement the rank and pay of an officer of the next higher grade. The number of officers to be so retired to be limited to 25, and all such retirements must be made within a year after the passage of the measure. The thirty years' retirement proposition, which is the subject of a petition by naval officers, is incorporated in the bill, but only 40 officers can take advantage of this feature. In case it should be found that the number of vacancies of casualties and retirements are insufficient for as many as 16 promotions in the list of sea-going officers of the grade of commander, and as many as 20 promotions to the grade of lieutenant commander during any fiscal year, the bill provides that the Secretary of the Navy shall, on or about the first day of June of the same year, convene a board of not more than five nor less than three rear admirals, which shall examine all the records of the Department relating to the qualifications of all the officers on the active list in the grades of captain, commander and lieutenant commander, and said board, having regard only for the efficiency of the navy service and the special fitness of officers for sea duty, shall, on or before the 30th day of said month, recommend a sufficient number of officers of the said grades to be removed from the active list to create the number of vacancies above required. Those officers so removed who have creditable records shall be placed upon the retired list. Those whose records are not creditable shall be retired or discharged.

The usual requirements for promotion are insisted upon, but officers found unfit professionally or deficient in the like qualities required for the next higher grade, shall be retired with the rank, and one-half of the sea pay they then hold.

A reserve list is a feature of the bill, and under its provisions an officer who entered the Naval Academy between 1861 and 1867, both inclusive, may be transferred to it. Any officer so transferred is to retain his seniority in the naval service and be eligible for promotion to the higher grades on such reserve list upon the promotion of the officer on the active list next above him in seniority. No officer on the reserve list, however, can be promoted to flag rank. Officers on this list may apply for retirement after 35 years' service.

Other provisions are:

Section 17.—Officers on the reserve list may be assigned to any shore duty except that of chiefs of bureaus in the Navy Department, commandants of navy yards and stations, captains of navy yards, on the Board of Inspection and Survey, on examining and retiring boards, and on the Light House Board. They may also be assigned to duty in the Coast Survey, in the Fish Commis-

sion, and in State nautical school ships: Provided, That, in time of war, they may be employed upon any duty, at sea or on shore, to which the President may direct their assignment.

Sec. 18.—No captain who has less than three years to serve shall be promoted to the grade of rear admiral upon the active list; but such captain, reaching the head of his grade, a vacancy existing in the grade of rear admiral, shall be retired with the rank of rear admiral and with the retired pay of a captain.

Sec. 19.—That, after the promotions consequent on the provisions of this act, no officer shall be promoted to the grade of lieutenant until he shall have had six years' service as commissioned officer, nor shall an officer be promoted to lieutenant of the junior grade until he shall have had three years' service as an ensign: Provided, That two-thirds of such service, counting from the date of the officer's commission as ensign, shall have been sea service: And provided further, That in case an officer is debarred from promotion by reason of insufficient sea service, the officer next in rank, if qualified, shall be advanced and promoted.

"Whenever Mr. Boutelle signifies that the full committee is ready to receive our report, it will be submitted." This statement was made to the "Journal" correspondent by Representative Hulick, the chairman of the sub-committee, which has had the subject of Navy personnel under consideration during this Congress. Mr. Hulick has had the bill prepared by the sub-committee in readiness to report since the close of the last session and before Congress adjourned in June last would have submitted it had Mr. Boutelle given an intimation that the full committee would receive the measure.

"The sub-committee, of which I am chairman," continued Mr. Hulick, "gave careful consideration to the several measures which were referred to it and as a result we drafted a bill, which I think meets all the requirements. There will be a meeting of the full naval committee on Tuesday next and after that session, I expect to call a meeting of the personnel sub-committee. Consideration will then again be given to the personnel subject and we will report as I have said whenever the full committee cares to hear from us."

Mr. Hulick would not express himself on the question of the passage of a personnel bill during this session of Congress. Chairman Boutelle was likewise uncommunicative, but it was evident from the manner of these gentlemen that they regarded the chances as very dubious. Representative Wilson is making a strong fight for his bill. Mr. Money has not deflected one iota from the position he held during the last session. In answer to a question he stated that he thought that even if the Wilson bill passed the House it would be killed in the Senate. Mr. Money is hoping that the war talk in Congress will awaken that body to the necessity of reorganizing the Navy so as to make it thoroughly efficient. He is a staunch advocate of reorganization on the lines he favored during the last session and intends to keep up the fight in the same direction.

It was reported at the Navy Department that Mr. Robinson had expressed himself in the Naval Committee room as favoring the Wilson bill. Mr. Robinson could not be found after the remarks were alleged to have been made up to the time the "Journal" went to press. Engineer officers are congratulating themselves upon the report, for if Mr. Robinson now supports their measure, they say they have a majority of the personnel sub-committee as well as of the full committee. Members who were with Mr. Robinson at the time he is said to have announced his intention to support the Engineer bill say they do not remember that he made any statements committing himself.

Mr. Boutelle has called a meeting of the full committee for Tuesday next. He stated that he proposed to dispose of the Naval Appropriation bill as quickly as possible and when it was out of the way the committee would take up other matters.

WEST POINT.

Dec. 9, 1896.

A delightful hop was given by the bachelor officers of the post in Schofield Hall on Thursday evening of last week, Dec. 3. The condition of the floor was excellent, the dance music well chosen, the number of guests sufficient to fill comfortably, but not to overcrowd, the hop room, and the affair so successful as to reward amply the efforts of the hosts. Among those present were: Mrs. Wallace F. Randolph and Miss Randolph, of Fort Riley, Kan.; Miss Tremaine, a guest of her aunt, Mrs. Wilder; Miss Swan, also a guest of Mrs. Wilder; Lieut. and Mrs. Thompson, Miss Berry, Mrs. Mason, Miss Mason, Capt. and Mrs. Wilder, Capt. and Mrs. Gordon, Capt. and Mrs. Bruff, Mrs. Dodson, Lieut. and Mrs. Hazzard, Col. and Mrs. Davis, Miss Davis, Miss Bessie Craney, Lieut. and Miss Dyer, Lieut. and Mrs. Cassatt, Dr. Wilcox, Lieut. Todd, Lieut. Rice, Lieut. Reeve, Lieut. Hoffer, Lieut. Echols, Lieut. Mauldin, Lieut. Crabb, Lieut. Devore, Lieut. Weigel and many others. Dancing was begun between 8 and 9 o'clock and continued until midnight.

An exceedingly enjoyable cadet tea was given by Mrs. Bruff on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 5. Mrs. Bruff was assisted by Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Dodson and Mrs. Cronin. Among the young ladies present were the Misses Michie, Davis, Craney, Tremaine, Mason, Randolph, Berry and others.

On Saturday evening a concert was given in the gymnasium by the N. S. M. A. orchestra. Lieut. W. H. Alaire, 23d Inf., on leave, is visiting friends in Washington.

Since the arrival of Lieut. J. R. Lindsey, 9th Cav., who has been detailed at the Academy as Assistant Instructor in Cavalry Tactics under Capt. Parker, the interest in the rides in the hall has increased considerably. Lieut. Lindsey is a superb horseman, and the cadets are to be congratulated upon their good fortune in receiving instruction from such an able officer, and Capt. Parker upon his selection of such an able assistant.

Cadets Begle, Michigan, Seay, Oklahoma; Watson, New Jersey, and H. J. Yates, Jr., of New York, were found deficient at the intermediate examinations recently held, and recommended to be discharged.

The Academy Band has been granted a furlough from Jan. 10 to Feb. 14, during which time they will make a concert tour of the larger cities. The soloists are Mr. and Mrs. Kronberg; baritone and soprano, respectively. Mrs. Bernard Reilly, of New York, who managed Col. Ingersoll's lecture tour last season, is the manager of the band concerts.

All work on the Memorial hall has been suspended for several days. The Probst Construction Company has failed, but all claims will be settled by the bondsmen of the company. The work has advanced in height to about midway in the second story and will be covered up for the winter.

Lieut. Clarence L. Lang, 2d Art.; Lieut. Edwin Bell, 8th Inf., have been among officers recently registered at headquarters.

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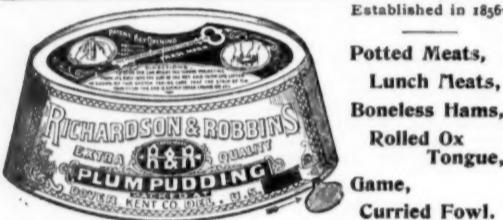
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The unanimous recommendation of the Adjutant Generals of the Service Military Departments approved by the Department Commanders that their civilian clerks, most of whom are men of long service and experience, be placed on the same footing as to classification with the clerks employed in the offices of other staff officers of the Army, has our hearty approval. The discrimination is without good reason.

The San Francisco "Examiner" has started again the story, giving a great Sheffield, England, manufacturing firm as authority for the statement that four well-known American millionaires have recently ordered coats and vests made of steel. This armor is described as of light chain mail, allowing perfectly free movements, not interfering with perspiration and weighing very little indeed. When a man has worn a mail coat for a week or two, the manufacturer says, he gets quite used to it and suffers no inconvenience whatever. While these coats will not turn a bullet, nor prevent the penetration

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of a dagger or sword at short range, they are sufficiently strong to turn either a dagger or a sword driven "at long range." A spent bullet will not affect them in the slightest degree. The same manufacturer says that in the last five years his firm has received more than 900 orders for light armor. A number of English statesmen protect themselves by using this armor. In the days when Fenianism was rampant, there was hardly an English politician of note who did not adopt this means of securing partial safety. It is declared that four members of the present English government have these coats of mail, and that one of these four men either wears his steel coat whenever he goes out or else is guarded by detectives. Quite a number of millionaires are credited with the possession of these garments of safety, and it is alleged that while few people imagine it, they are worn very generally by prominent men. As this armor is intended for that unhappy class known as millionaires, or plutocrats, there is small danger that its use will be general in the Army and Navy. A young officer, when he gets his first commission, feels like a millionaire, but he isn't one, by several removes, a fact which reveals itself as soon as he begins to distribute his first month's pay. No man of experience would add to the danger from bullets the risk of having a lot of

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chain armor driven into his flesh by a missile, according to the theory of probabilities, would, if unobstructed, leave nothing worse behind it than a flesh wound. But it is the danger from the daggers, and swords, "at long range," that seems to be most exciting to the capitalistic mind, if this story is to be believed.

THE POPE TO THE NEGUS.

It is officially stated that King Humbert has received a telegram from Menelek, Emperor of Abyssinia, saying that a treaty of peace between Abyssinia and Italy was signed on October 26. The new convention abrogates the Uccialli Treaty, by the terms of which Italy claimed a protectorate over Abyssinia, and recognizes the complete independence of Ethiopia. Menelek declares free all the Italians taken prisoners by the Abyssinians during the recent campaign, but Italy will have to indemnify him for their support while in captivity. Maj. Nerazzi, the special envoy sent to Menelek by General Baldassera, Governor of Erythrea and Commander in Chief of the Italian forces in that colony, signed the treaty in behalf of Italy.

The "Osservatore Romano" publishes the text of the letter written to the Emperor Menelik by the Pope on June 11 last, asking for the release of the Italian prisoners, together with the Negus' reply, dated Oct. 1, which was brought back by Monsignor Macaire. His Holiness wrote:

"Victory has left in your hands numerous prisoners, still in full enjoyment of youth and vigor, and worthy of respect, who have been severed from their families and from their native land. Their captivity does not increase the greatness of your power, neither does it enhance your prestige. But the more it is prolonged the keener is the grief of thousands of unoffending mothers and wives. For us, penetrated by the Divine mission confided in us by Jesus Christ, which extends to all Christian nations, we love these captives as sons. Grant, then, the petition made to you by a father's heart, in the name of the Divine Trinity, in the name of the Blessed Virgin, in the name of all that is dearest to you in the world, and restore these men to liberty without delay."

The Emperor Menelik in his reply, which was written both in French and in Abyssinian, commences by an eulogy of Monsignor Macaire, the bearer of the Pope's letter, and continues:

"The first impulse of my heart was to grant your Holiness the satisfaction which you so nobly ask for. I, like you, weep for many innocent victims made by the cruel war, which I at least am not conscious of having provoked. Unhappily, my keen desire to realize the wishes of your Holiness has been frustrated by the unexpected attitude of the Italian Government, which, after having expressed the desire to make peace and restore good relations, continues to act towards me as if we were in a state of war. My duty as King and father of my people forbids me under the circumstances to sacrifice a single guarantee of peace which is in my hands to the satisfaction of gratifying your Holiness and also myself. I hope that the noble voice of your Holiness, to which all Christians hearken with respect, will be raised in favor of the justice of my cause, which is that of the independence of the people of whom God has confided to me the government, and that it will thus enable the prompt realization of our common desire to restore to their families those who are severed from them." The Emperor concludes by assuring the Pope that the captives are well treated, and adds, "Out of consideration for your Holiness I will, if possible, still further alleviate the lot of the prisoners."

The Secretary of the Navy is quite right in asking that we should have armored vessels of lighter draft for the defense of our shallow harbors, but these should not be battleships but monitors. The whole argument in favor of battleships—if it be a sound one—fails when it comes to the question of vessels of lighter draft. The ideal vessel, having the minimum of draft and the maximum of defense, is the monitor. There is no reason why such vessel should not have sufficient speed. Given a fixed sum of money, a certain weight of metal for guns and armor, and a definite number of officers and men, the question is in what form we can dispose them to produce the maximum result. Theory and experience alike show that the best form is that of the monitor vessel. Congress should consider long before ordering light draft battleships to do the work for which monitors are better adapted.

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THE ENGINEER IN NAVAL WARFARE.

The articles on "The Engineer in Naval Warfare" appearing in the North American Review for December, to which we briefly referred last week, are worthy of the serious attention of all who are concerned with the future of our Navy. Adm'l. Walker takes direct issue with the claim "that seamen are simply a left-over product of the age of sails, who embarrass naval efficiency, but whom no one has yet devised means to get rid of, and that the engineer is 'the great factor in modern warfare,' and must be recognized and honored as such." He accordingly lays stress on the point that "the military element must be the predominant element" on a ship, and that the customs and training in peace must follow what is requisite in war; that "the military men who train the crews in warlike exercises, and who in battle will employ and direct all the weapons of offense and defense, must exercise authority and command."

Perhaps that general statement might not be challenged. But Adm'l. Walker goes further and denies emphatically that seamanship has passed away, inasmuch as long as ships float on the sea, sailors will command them. Seamanship was not created by sails, nor has it been destroyed by steam. It existed in the galley period, when the seaman ordered his rowers hither and thither. It is "the habit and knowledge of the sea and of the ships in which one sails."

It follows that the commanding officer must know something of steam as he used to of oars. He need not be an expert, practical machinist, just as it was not necessary that he should row. But he must "know the limitations of steam and machinery and the laws of its care and use." At Annapolis line officers give some attention to machinery, and the fields of ordnance and torpedo engineering, of electric lighting and insulation have been almost exclusively occupied by them. That the seaman on deck must say whether the engines shall be slowed, stopped, backed or run ahead is inevitable, from the fact that the engineer is below, where he can see nothing but his engines. On the men who direct the operations of war the first responsibility of success must rest.

Engineering is a profession which finds its proper exercise in design and construction; but the care and driving of an engine when built is a trade:

"It is a defect in our own naval organization that the same class of men perform two classes of duties. There should be a division of duties and engineering should be placed in its proper position, as it is in continental navies, where men of high professional capacity do little or no sea service, and in fact constitute a different branch. The men who go to sea in charge of engines should be mainly practical men—skilled machinists—who would not rise above warrant rank, the class of men who run the engines of the merchant service, even of the great passenger steamers, and who are found in the engine-rooms of the British, French, Italian, and German navies."

Such a change would relieve the discontent felt by highly educated young men who are and necessarily must be simple engine drivers or expert mechanicians if sent to sea, and must so be treated, because the duties of the place require it.

Capt. Mahan claims that the directive force is superior to the motive, whether the man controlling it be or not superior as a man.

In early naval warfare the oarsmen, or motive power, actually had their backs turned to the direction a ship was taking. When sails became the motive engine, the immediate control of the motive power was in the same man that held the directive power, because the sails were above deck. But when steam came in, the motive power had to be sunk low in the ship, and there protected to the greatest extent.

The introduction of steam has not reduced the functions or responsibility of the officer in charge of the deck, whether he be the captain or the youngest lieutenant. On the contrary, one source of great danger, that of fatal collision, now exists, which practically was

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unknown in the sailing ship era. The movements in close order with modern steam warships emphasizes this fact. Thus there is really more depending than ever upon the man on deck, whatever his rank, who holds for the moment the directive force.

The opposite view "recognizes the captain, but resents the executive officer and the officer of the watch." It declares that "military routine, which may be necessary for a marine guard, cannot be applied to the management of the fire-room force," and that "there should be extended to the navy the system of the merchant marine, which gives engineers immunity from the interference of mates on deck;" that is, from the officer of the watch. These two last quotations are from the May articles, presenting the engineer's view; and Capt. Mahan says that the difficulty proceeds from a confusion of thought.

The authority of the captain or of the deck officer does not come from his title, but from the duty he has to do, and the power needed for its discharge. "The republican idea knows nothing of titles, except as convenient names which designate duties. It would be quite as fitting to call a Senator of the United States a duke or an earl for the sake of his dignity, as to call an engineer a lieutenant or a captain for the sake of his. An engineer is called an engineer because he has to do with engines; to call him a lieutenant simply obscures his functions. The little glamour that in some eyes seems to hang round the mere titles, admiral, captain, lieutenant, etc., is due simply to the fact that they have a somewhat long historical derivation—something of the venerableness of years. The engine is a new comer; it has brought its own nomenclature, including that of those who run it."

Capt. Evans finds that the discipline of the engineer force is not as good as that of the combatant force, and that this is due to a difference in attitude and spirit toward the military organization of the ship. "If I had the same loyal support from engineer officers that I have from those of the line, the discipline throughout the entire force would speedily become the same." He thinks that the current movement promotes discontent. As to the desire of engineers for "authority to command and discipline" their men, "they already have more than they exercise, and this neglect to exercise it causes the principal interference with the engineer force."

No doubt "the man before a roaring furnace" will do his duty in battle, but so will "the man behind the roaring gun," and the men in the magazines. The man on deck who exercises the directive force will have to do so, even at the moment of ramming, although the engines may then be doing all the work. Capt. Evans concludes that "if the educated engineers are to stand watch, there are too few of them. If they are to supervise only, one in a ship, and machinists are to stand watch, there are too many of them. In my opinion, their number should be reduced, and we should take into the service a corps of warranted machinists. Lieut. Staunton says that statistics show that while in the British Navy, engineer officers, in spite of the enormous increase of ships in tonnage, have fallen off from 1,418 in 1863, and from 1,205 in 1868 to only 845 in 1896, the engine room artificers who did not exist in 1863 and numbered only 90 in 1868, numbered 2,335 the present year. Put in another form, since 1889, "with an increase in the total personnel of 50 per cent. and in the engine room artificers of 108 per cent, the amount of engineers has been increased only 24 per cent." Again, it is declared that while the number of commissioned engineers is greater in our Navy per ship and per horsepower than in any navy of Europe, the Squire-Wilson bill would vastly increase it. Excluding torpedo boats, in the following table the first column of figures shows the number of engineers per ship and the second the horsepower to each engineer:

Great Britain	2.15	2,220
France	1.38	2,783
Russia	1.70	2,334
Italy	2.16	2,180
Germany	.96	3,920
United States	2.70	1,569
United States (Squire-Wilson bill)	4.21	1,004

A striking argument in the May issue of the magazine for an increase in the number of engineers was the strong force of them employed during the Civil War. Lieut. Staunton makes this reply: "On Jan. 1, 1865, they numbered 2,252, but only half were commissioned officers, 1,125 being third assistants with the rank of midshipman, and receiving a pay less than that of warrant officer. Of the 1,127 commissioned, 734 had the lowest rank, the relative rank of ensign. The body of volunteers (1,778 of this 2,252) were practical machinists, taken for the most part from the engine-rooms of merchant craft, and returning at the close of the war to their former occupation. Torpedo-boats and small craft require no commissioned engineers; gun vessels and small cruisers require one; battleships and other heavy vessels two, a chief and an assistant; flagships perhaps three, to provide for chance vacancies. All watch standing should be done by mechanicians, brought into the service if possible as boys, trained in shops and engine-rooms, and advanced through the several grades of petty officer to the rank of warrant officer like our boatswains and gunners, with good pay, assured position, and the privileges of retirement." This would result, says Lieut. Staunton, in another benefit, namely, in getting younger men to run the engines, who could better stand a strain.

"Field Service, or the Essentials of the Art of War," prepared by Lieut. W. A. Campbell, U. S. A. Melling & Gaskins, publishers, Alton, Ill., 1896. This is a brief epitome of the thoughts of many authors as to the best theories of Field Service, and, while, as is most natural in an officer of our Army, the theories and instructions

of Col. Wagner are predominantly evident, enough has been culled from other authors to give more or less of a catholic tone to the work. It is as it professes to be an elementary work, but the ground covered is sufficiently extensive to warrant the assertion that a careful and thorough mastering of its contents will lay a good foundation for a military education. We cannot altogether agree with the author when he says on page 6 that "his (the President's) orders which the law does not warrant will be no protection to officers acting under them." We have always been taught to obey the orders of our superiors, and, while the above may be very good law, it is very poor discipline, and it is the inculcation of the idea that the orders of superiors may be caviled at and disobeyed, which is productive of anarchism and mutiny. Soldiers should be disciplined, obedient men, not guardhouse lawyers. Aside from this, the chapter on "Army Organization" is good and the proposed plan of organizing our small regular Army most commendable. The chapter on "Reconnaissance" is short and pithy; this is followed by chapters on "Covering Detachments," "Marches," "Transportation," "Camps," and "Military Supplies," all of which treat in a thorough and clear manner of the subject to which it is devoted. The last third of the book is devoted to "Battles" and "Attack and Defense of Fortified Places," verily a large subject to be treated in half a hundred pages; and yet the outlines of these subjects are so clearly and concisely indicated, that these chapters are among the most valuable of the work. The sentinel's challenge on page 24 is of the past, as is likewise the signal code in the Appendix. Aside from the slight blemishes noticed, this book is a most valuable addition to the elementary literature on the Art of War.

In Capt. Charles King's last book, "A Garrison Tangle," the hero is called Maynard, and is led through a series of most interesting adventures and hair-breadth escapes until he lands at last safe in the haven of his sweetheart's love. She, of course, has her trials and tribulations as well, due to the evil genius of his sister, a sour, selfish New England old maid, who, to keep her sway over her brother intact, does not hesitate to besmirch the fair name of the heroine, and to misrepresent her brother. There are, of course, a quantity of other characters, incidental to the story. The motherly wife of the C. O., the smoother of all the rough places in the social life of the garrison, the post busybody, the young bride fresh from the East, the Adjutant, the best of fellows and the worst abused of men, the various officers, photographs of men we have all known, the keeper of the saloon just outside the post limits, these and many more help to round out a story of much interest and to bring to our remembrance many recollections of days long gone by. There is a delightful charm about all of Capt. King's books. His pictures of the old army life are true, his sketches of character just, and while at times the situations are a trifle forced and the adventures at times verge on the improbable, all is told in a delightful and positive manner that wins belief. Then, too, his atmosphere is so clear, fresh and wholesome, that we seek not to discover the psychological reasons for the actions of the puppets on the mimic stage. His good people are truly good, and his bad people thoroughly bad. One small blemish in the book is the use of the term "lady friends" on page 170. It is too much in the line of the entry we sometimes see on hotel registers, "Mr. Parvenu and lady." Even our ferry boats have now discarded their "ladies" and "gents" cabins.

During the present month there will be several important changes in stations of officers of the Navy. Contrary to recent expectations, Capt. Robley D. Evans, who has commanded the Indiana since she was commissioned, will be relieved and the command of the Indiana will be given to Capt. Henry C. Taylor, president of the War College at Newport. Capt. Evans will be given a place as member of the Lighthouse Board, which he desired some time ago. Capt. Evans was averse to relinquishing the command of the Indiana, because he would have liked a longer term of sea duty, particularly in view of Spanish war possibilities, but Capt. Evans' period of sea service having already been extended, it was the opinion of the President that it was but just to transfer Capt. Evans to shore duty. Capt. Mahan, until his retirement a few weeks ago, was considered the most probable successor of Capt. Taylor as president of the Naval War College. His appointment being impossible, the names of two other officers have been prominently mentioned for the place—Comdr. Caspar H. Goodrich, stationed at New London, and Capt. Albert S. Barker, commandant of the Mare Island Navy Yard. It is considered probable that Comdr. Goodrich will succeed Capt. Taylor. On the 15th of December an interchange of stations will occur between Comdr. John McGowan, assistant to the chief of the Bureau of Navigation, and Comdr. F. W. Dickins, who for two years has been in charge of the training ship and station at Newport, R. I. It is believed that the talked-of transfer of Capt. Winfield S. Schley, from the command of the flagship New York, to the office of harbor supervisor, at New York, will not take place at present, and Lieut. Comdr. Daniel Delahanty will remain in his present incumbency of harbor supervisor.

The British War Office intends within the next few weeks to make some important experiments at the Shoeburyness School of Gunnery respecting the effect of artillery fire on captive balloons. The latter will be raised to various altitudes, and several kinds of projectiles and explosives will be used. Some half dozen balloons will be used, and the experiments will extend over several days.

LAUNCH OF THE VICKSBURG AND NEWPORT.

The new gunboats Vicksburg and Newport were launched from the yards of the Bath Iron Works, at Bath, Me., on Saturday, Dec. 5. Representatives from the cities of Vicksburg, Miss., and Newport, R. I., were present. As the Vicksburg started down the ways Miss Addie Trowbridge, daughter of the mayor of that city, broke a bottle of American champagne on the bow, and christened the vessel. Miss La Farge, daughter of Mr. John La Farge, of Newport, and great-granddaughter of Commo. Oliver Hazard Perry, broke the bottle on the Newport's bow. The new gunboats are of an entirely new type for the United States Navy. They are of composite construction, but nearly all their framing is of steel. Planks of Georgia pine are worked on the frames below the water line, secured by composition bolts in such a manner as to prevent galvanic action, and being then covered with copper. This will largely obviate the necessity of docking and renders the vessels economical in the use of fuel, as the copper causes the barnacles and seagrass to fall off as the ship moves, keeping her bottom clean and insuring the maintenance of full speed with minimum coal consumption. Another feature of these gunboats is the use of full sail power in addition to steam. All of the woodwork uncovered by water has been subjected to an electrical fireproofing process, to reduce the danger of fire from an enemy's bursting shell.

The armament is composed of a main battery of six 4-inch rapid-fire rifles, and a secondary battery of four 6-pounder and two 1-pounder rapid-fire guns. The ammunition supply is a liberal one. For the large guns there will be 900 rounds for the 6-pounders, 2,002 rounds for the 1-pounders, 1,200 rounds. The engines are of the three-cylinder, vertical, triple-expansion type. The cylinders are of 15 $\frac{1}{4}$, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 36 inches diameter, with a common stroke of 30 inches.

The engines are expected to make 150 revolutions a minute when developing the required 800 horse-power, and speed of 12 knots. When under sail alone the engines will be uncoupled, allowing the shafting and screw to revolve freely, and so slight is the retarding action of the screw thus disengaged that there is every reason to believe that the sailing speed will equal the steam power. Each boat has two single-ended Scotch boilers supplying steam at a working pressure of 180 pounds to the square inch. The total grate surface is 78 square feet, and the aggregate heating surface 2,500 square feet. The boilers will be placed side by side and worked from a common fire room, and moderate forced drafts will be induced by two blowers applied directly to the ashpits. The closed fire room, usual in high-powered craft, is thus obviated, as well as more troublesome features present under forced draft conditions. The nominal coal supply is 100 tons, with a total bunker capacity of 138 more.

The service for which these vessels have been assigned is such as might expose them to musketry fire from river banks, and in covering the greater part of the batteries by an unbroken deck, aside from the advantage of structural strength and comfortable quarters, assures excellent protection for the gun's crews. The construction of these gunboats marks the first advance in the direction of the sheathing of ships, so long advocated by Chief Naval Constr. Hichborn. The vessels are of the frong, of which the Annapolis, Princeton, Marietta and Wheeling are the remainder, are being built under the act of March 2, 1895, and all of them will be ready to go into commission in about a year.

THE WAYS AND WOES OF THE TEXAS.

Alfred Henry Lewis occupies nearly a page of the New York "Journal" with an illustrated article on the woes of the Texas. In it he says: Representative Amos Cummings, of New York, is, I am told, to offer a resolution of inquiry at the coming session of Congress and ask for a committee to investigate the charges of fraud, incompetence and neglect in the planning, building and sinking of the battleship Texas. This is good news. The Texas is the scandal of the naval yard. There should be an investigation by Congress if only to draw the teeth of slander.

At the Army and Navy Club, at the Metropolitan, in theatre and café, throughout the departments, all along our shore line, even among our boats on foreign stations, whenever two sailors find themselves together, they discuss the Texas. Crime after crime is charged in her building and planning, and on this foundation of asserted venality is piled a deck load of ignorance on the part of those who had her construction in hand: sought to ruin a nation itself, let alone sink a ship. There would seem to be no doubt of the malconstruction of the Texas; every one busy with the scandal of her building agrees to that. But, while some charge it to oversight, and still others to ignorance, there is a stubborn coterie who talk of "reasons" for all the black shortages of the Texas construction. They hint of bribes, and, with a shrug of the shoulders, intimate corruption. By these the Texas is declared to be a mere creature of jobs and jealousies; a patchwork of prejudice, politics and pillage.

That she is a standing threat to all who sail her and a dead loss to the Government of over \$3,750,000 no one doubts. The Texas is worthless; she cost \$4,125,000; she wouldn't wreck for \$375,000, and there you are at that end of the muddy account. The Government quite behind \$3,750,000, while on some deep water day, whether far or near, many honest sailor people are doomed to go to the bottom with her. It is no exaggeration to say that the certainty exists that men are walking the earth to-day who are to sink when the Texas sinks, drown when the Texas drowns. She is the merest trap for sailors which some shot or some storm is to spring in the end.

The story of the Texas is being told and retold among officials here. They tell how the Englishman Johns drew the plans, first for Spain, and how Spain rejected them. Since the sad day of the Spanish Armada, Spain has known more of bull fights than battleships, but the fact that she still had sense enough to reject the Texas shows that she retains the rudiments, at least, of a former marine intelligence.

Turned down by Spain, Johns redrew the Texas, put the deck and armament of a battleship on the hull of a cruiser—called for 10,000 tons displacement, and arranged for 6,000—and offered them to the United States. Johns got out all right, Spain got out all right, this country was left to hold the bag. She's holding the sack now. The Texas' hull can't safely carry the Texas' upper works and guns, and she has dumbly testified to it herself by peacefully sinking on two occasions. They say her bulkheads are papier mache and her water-tight compartments a fake. They say one-pounder can sink the Texas with a shot anywhere along the whole length of her water line. They say that you can't leave the Texas in the water for fear she'll sink, and can't dry dock her for fear she'll fall to pieces. Heaven knows what they don't say that's bad and black and evil of the Texas and the men who planned her and put her together.

Taking it by and large, this story of the Texas, now running about like a garter snake, is the worst yarn of

rotteness and incompetence and duty-shirking that has been told in Washington for years. For the credit of the Navy as well as for public good, it must be investigated. We are building more boats, and we don't want another Texas.

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.—(Second Session.)

The Senate on Dec. 9 passed the bill giving \$60,000 to the heirs of Erskine S. Ann, the inventor or valuable improvements used in the manufacture of the Springfield breech-loading rifle musket.

The House, Dec. 9, agreed to the conference report in favor of a pension of \$50 a month for the widow of Gen. Joseph B. Carr.

The House also agreed to the report of the Conference Committee in the case of Caronne Hough, widow of Brig.-Gen. John Hough. Under the act passed Mrs. Hough will receive a pension of \$50 a month.

Senator Turpie has given notice that he will offer these amendments to the Naval appropriation bill: All appointees to the junior grade of the Navy Corps of the Navy shall be chosen from graduates of the U. S. Naval Academy. The laws relating to the Army shall be applicable to the Navy as regards the age of voluntary and of compulsory retirement, and fraction of pay when on the retired list. In all commissions in the Navy the rank and relative rank of the officer shall be stated. Lawyers are made eligible to appointment to the office of J. A. General in the Navy Department. Any officer of the Navy, pleading with that Department for any right under a law or regulation, shall, on application, receive personal hearing by the Secretary of the Navy, and be therein confronted with the J. A. General. And no obstruction or objection to any officer's case shall be used secretly, but shall be fully made known to him by the Navy Department in writing. An officer who, when retired for disability, had not at the time sufficient evidence available to show the disability as a result of incident of service, shall be allowed to make good that deficiency before the permanent retiring board. No money herein appropriated shall, after the next vacancy occurs in his grade, be paid any officer on the retired list under the regular retiring age who is able to perform on the active list the duties of his existing commission, said ability to be determined by an examining board, and the officer on said vacancy ordered back to duty.

The following bills have been introduced:

H. R. 7,160: Pensioning Francis A. Kitchen, late Surgeon, U. S. Army.

S. 1,555: For the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the U. S. Revenue cutter Gallatin.

S. 1,883: To pension the widow of Gen. Horatio P. Van Cleve.

H. R. 8,966: To authorize Comdr. E. S. Houston, U. S. N., to accept a portrait from His Majesty the Emperor of Germany.

S. 937: Increasing the pension of the widow of Maj. Clifton, Comly.

H. R. 2,732: To retire Julius R. Frederick as a 2d Lieutenant.

S. 122: To increase the pension of the widow of Brig. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis.

H. R. 6,199: For the relief of Francis S. Davidson, late 1st Lieutenant, 9th U. S. Cav.

S. 3,269: To pay the Richmond Locomotive and Machine Works its claim for damages and losses incurred in the construction of the armored battleship Texas.

U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY.

Annapolis, Dec. 9, 1896.

Two games of football were played here last Saturday. The first game between the first and third classes, was won by the former by a score of 12 to 0. The second class won the other game from the fourth class by a score of 6 to 0. The fourth class played an excellent game, giving the second class a hard tussle.

Miss Morris, of Baltimore, is visiting Mrs. Rae. Capt. Bainbridge-Huff is in Annapolis.

There will be an officers' hop Saturday evening.

Saturday afternoon will occur the contest for the medals for kicking the football. Medals are given for the place kick and the drop kick, at different distances from the goal, and for the long punt. The medals are given by the Auxiliary Athletic Association, which is composed of officers of the Navy.

LATE ARMY ORDERS.

Lient. Col. Henry, 3d Cav., announces, under date of Dec. 8, that the use of "eupion" oil at Jefferson Barracks is approved by the Department Commander. The oil, in barrels, must not be kept in troop store rooms, or elsewhere in public buildings, but must be drawn off at once and put in securely closed cans such as those containing Government oil, or other safety cans not exceeding ten gallons.

The following named enlisted men are placed upon the retired list: Corp. John Clark, Co. G, 25th Inf., Fort Missoula, Mont.; Pvt. John W. Glenny, Troop B, 1st Cav., Fort Reno, Okla. Ter. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9).

Maj. Charles R. Barnett, Q. M., will proceed from Cheyenne, Wyo., to Hanna, Wyo., on official business, pertaining to coal tests. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9).

2d Lieut. Henry D. Todd, Jr., 3d Art., will report in person to Lieut. Col. Henry C. Hasbrouck, 4th Art., president of the examining board appointed to meet at Fort Monroe, Va., for examination as to his fitness for promotion. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9).

Lient. Col. William M. Wherry, 2d Inf., is detailed as a member of the Army Retiring Board at Fort Keogh, Mont., vice Maj. Jacob H. Smith, 2d Inf., relieved. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9).

1st Lient. George H. Sands, 6th Cav., will repair to Fort Myer, Va., for appointment as Quartermaster of 6th Cavalry. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9.)

2d Lieut. William F. Grote, 18th Inf., is detailed as Judge Advocate of the G. C. M. appointed to meet at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, vice 2d Lieut. Joseph E. Cusack, 5th Cav., relieved. (S. O. D. T., Dec. 7.)

Leave for twenty days is granted Col. James F. Wade, 5th Cav. (S. O. 151, D. T., Dec. 7.)

Leave for twelve days, to take effect about Dec. 15, is granted 2d Lieut. James E. Normoyle, 23d Inf. (S. O. 151, Dec. 7.)

2d Lieut. Jacob H. G. Lazelle, 18th Inf., now at Fort Sam Houston, will proceed on Dec. 15 to Fort Ringgold, Texas, for duty to command the detachment of Seminole-Negro Indian scouts stationed at that post. (S. O. 151, D. T., Dec. 7.)

So much of par. 5, S. O. 43, Feb. 20, 1896, H. O. A., as directs 2d Lieut. Henry D. Todd, Jr., 3d Art., to report for examination at Fort Monroe, Va., is revoked, by reason of the dissolution of the board. (H. Q. A., Dec. 9.)

It has been discovered that one of the new disappearing gun carriages at Willets Point, N. Y., is not set plumb, and consequently the gun cannot be accurately aimed. The foundation upon which it rests is made of concrete seven feet deep. The gun and carriage weigh together over seventy tons.

THE NAVY.

H. A. HERBERT, Secretary. WM. MCADOO, Asst. Secy.

NAVY GAZETTE.

DEC. 4.—Cadet J. B. Henry, detached from the New York and ordered to the Brooklyn.

Asst. Engr. R. D. Hasbrouck, ordered to the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

Capt. R. D. Evans, detached from the command of the Indiana about Jan. 1, and ordered to Washington as member of Lighthouse Board.

Capt. H. C. Taylor, detached from War College, Dec. 31, and ordered to command the Indiana.

Comdr. F. W. Dickens, detached from training ship and station, Newport, R. I., Dec. 15, and ordered to Bureau of Navigation as assistant to chief of that bureau.

Comdr. J. McGowan, detached from Bureau of Navigation, Dec. 4, and ordered to command training ship and station, Newport, R. I., Dec. 15.

Asst. Gunner F. Rorschak, ordered to the Puritan, Dec. 10.

DEC. 5.—Lieut. C. M. Fahs, detached from duty at Newport News, Va., and ordered to Pittsburgh, Pa., as Inspector of Steel.

Lieut. Comdr. W. I. Moore, detached from Naval Station, Newport, R. I., and ordered to South Bethlehem, as Inspector of Ordnance.

Lieut. K. Niles, detached from the Vermont, Dec. 30, and ordered to Naval Station, Newport, R. I.

DEC. 7.—Lieut. E. Theall, detached from the San Francisco and ordered to the Minneapolis.

Ensign R. L. Russell, detached from the Minneapolis and ordered to the San Francisco.

Lieut. J. J. Hunker, detached from the Minneapolis and ordered to the San Francisco.

1st Lieut. H. K. White, detached from the Minneapolis and ordered to the San Francisco.

F. L. Peckham, appointed Pay Clerk to settle accounts of the Raleigh.

Lieut. Comdr. E. H. Gheen, ordered to the Hydrographic Office, Jan. 5.

Comdr. G. E. Wingate, detached from League Island, Jan. 3, and ordered to the Boston Yard.

Comdr. E. S. Houston, ordered to the League Island Yard, as Captain Yard, Jan. 3.

Comdr. A. J. Iverson, detached from Boston Yard, Jan. 3, and ordered home and wait orders.

Comdr. A. J. Iverson, placed on retired list, Jan. 4, 1897.

Lieut. J. B. Milton, order of Nov. 6 modified; when detached from Monterey, ordered to Union Iron Works as Inspector of Equipment.

DEC. 8.—Ensign R. H. Leigh, detached from the Albatross and granted three months' leave.

Lieut. Comdr. C. H. Arnold, detached from the Massachusetts and ordered to command the Bancroft, str. Dec. 23.

Lieut. Comdr. T. C. McLean, ordered to Bureau of Navigation.

Lieut. Comdr. C. Belknap, detached from command of the Bancroft, on relief, and ordered home to wait orders.

Asst. Engr. G. W. Danforth, detached from the Fern, 12th inst., and granted three months' leave.

Lieut. Comdr. S. Schroeder, detached from Board of Inspection and Survey, Dec. 16, and to the Massachusetts, as executive, Dec. 17.

Asst. Surg. H. F. Parrish, resignation accepted from Jan. 1, 1897.

DEC. 9.—P. A. Surg. H. B. Fitts, detached from the Essex and ordered home to wait orders.

P. A. Surg. C. D. Brownell, detached from Puget Sound Navigation Station and ordered to the Petrel, Dec. 16.

Ensign L. A. Kaiser, ordered to the Monadnock as W. and D. officer.

Surg. E. H. Marsteller, ordered to the Raleigh.

Surg. H. G. Boyer, detached from the Raleigh and ordered to the Newark.

DEC. 11.—Asst. Surg. H. F. Parrish, detached from Naval Laboratory, New York.

Comdr. W. H. Brownson, appointed member Board of Inspection and Survey, Dec. 16.

Lieut. R. G. Davenport, ordered to Hydrographic Office, Dec. 16.

Comdr. F. M. Green, detached from duty as 2d Light House Inspector, Jan. 2, and ordered home to wait orders.

Lieut. Comdr. E. D. Taussig, detached from Hydrographic Office and ordered to Coast Survey as Hydrographic Inspector, Dec. 23.

Lieut. Comdr. H. G. O. Colby, detached as Hydrographer, Coast Survey, Dec. 23, and appointed Inspector 2d Light House District, Jan. 2.

MARINE CORPS ORDERS.

DEC. 5.—Capt. A. C. Kelton ordered to Marine Barracks, Boston, for duty when his present leave will expire.

1st Lieut. J. E. Mahoney detached from Marine Barracks, Boston, on 28th inst., and ordered to Marine Barracks, League Island, on Jan. 4, 1897.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

Commo. E. O. Matthews, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, has under consideration a plan for the preservation of the exposed surfaces of wooden dry docks, which, particularly in the Southern States, are subjected to the disastrous ravages of the troublesome bivalve, the teredo. The wood of the dock at Norfolk, within the past five years has become entirely honeycombed. A sheet iron plate over a cushion of felt will probably be used as a preventive.

The English torpedo boat destroyer Surley is at Portsmouth yard, having the copper tubes of her water-tube boilers changed for steel tubes, and whilst this is being carried out, her two after boilers are being prepared for the use of liquid fuel on a plan invented by Mr. Holden, chief of the engineering staff of the Great Eastern Railway Company. Coal will be used so far as the two forward boilers are concerned, so the liquid fuel's performance can be compared with those of the coal in the same boat and under exactly similar conditions.

The two Russian battleships of 12,674 tons, Oslavy and Peresvet, which are now being built at St. Petersburg, are to be ready for launching in the spring, and the two cruisers Pallada and Diana, are to take the water in November and be completed by May, 1898. Each of them will cost 2,336,000 roubles. Several vessels are also completing their trials in the Baltic. An attempt has just been made to get afloat the great cruiser Russia, which has been lying on a sand bank in the Neva since May. It was successful, but the cruiser, not being fully under control, ran upon another bank in Cronstadt roads, and it is doubtful if she can be floated before the navigation is closed. The new Alexandria dry dock has been opened, and the Peter Veliky was floated in. Torpedo boat No. 133, which was of the Pernow type, has

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recently attained a maximum speed of 22.72 knots with force draught.

In a few days, it is understood, the Secretary of the Navy will ask Congress for an appropriation of about \$1,000,000. During the past eight months more than \$250,000 have been expended in the construction and repair of ships.

The Navy Department has published court-martial orders in the cases Chief Eng. Julien S. Ogden, U. S. N., who was tried and found guilty of a charge of drunkenness, and 1st Lieut. James E. Mahoney, Marine Corps, found guilty of charges of scandalous conduct and drunkenness. Mr. Ogden was sentenced to be suspended from duty for three months on waiting orders pay and to lose three files. The Department remits the first part of the sentence on the ground that it is not punishment but favor for an officer to have three months' leave. Lieut. Mahoney was sentenced to lose one file and be reprimanded. Mr. McAdoo, however, has reduced him two files and placed him for one year on waiting orders pay.

Advices from San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 27, state that the battleship Oregon, which went to sea for a short cruise, returned on that date. During the trip, which extended as far south as Monterey, all the guns were tested with full service charges, the great pieces working beautifully. Eight 13-inch charges, sixteen of the 8-inch, eight of the 6-inch, thirty-two of the 6-pounder, and eleven of the 1-pounder were fired during the trip. The next trip of the battleship will, it is said, be to Port Orchard, where she will go on the dry dock to have bilge keels or rolling checks put in her hull. The last two trips of the Oregon in rough weather, on one of which she rolled 20°, show that the bilge keels are necessary.

A board of experts has pronounced the devices which have taken the place of steam and electricity in the operations of guns, turrets and carriages and the steering gear of the Terror a success. It has been found that the system works very satisfactorily in the turning of the turrets, the raising and lowering of the guns and the operation of the mounts. The Secretary is expected to pass upon the report of the board in a few days. The makers of the new devices are the Pneumatic Gun Carriage and Power Company, of Philadelphia.

In a report recently made public, Comdr. J. J. Brice, U. S. N., says we have just three courses open. One is to annihilate the Alaskan seal herds, when the animals arrive on the Pribilof Islands; the second, to permit the pelagic sealers to annihilate them, as they are gradually doing under the Paris rules; the third to secure from Great Britain genuinely protective laws in place of these rules. And no amount of patrolling of the prohibited waters can give us any other choice.

A meeting of the House Committee on Naval Affairs was called for Wednesday last, but owing to the absence of a quorum no business was considered. Informal discussion among the members showed that there was little chance of a personnel measure being reported to the House by the committee. No meeting of the service committees of the Senate has yet occurred. An attempt was made on Wednesday to get a quorum of the Naval Committee of the Upper House, but it failed. Senator Cameron has called another meeting for Tuesday next. Gen. Hawley, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, has not yet called a meeting of his committee, but is expected to do so within a few days. He has not yet announced what date he has determined on.

The Indiana sailed on Wednesday from New York for Hampton Roads. She will be followed by all the vessels of the North Atlantic Squadron as fast as repairs are completed on them at the New York Navy Yard. The usual winter programme of evolutions will be carried out at Hampton Roads, and exercises will begin as soon as all the vessels of the squadron are assembled there. There seems little likelihood of a West India trip under existing conditions in Cuba.

There is a strong probability of an investigation by the House Naval Committee of the battleship Texas. An inquiry into the alleged defects of the ship was started during the last session in response to a resolution. The Secretary of the Navy sent to the committee a lengthy statement containing detailed information regarding the construction of the Texas, which tended to prove that she was entirely seaworthy. In consequence of this the investigation was informally dropped. The recent mishap to the vessel has renewed interest in the subject, however, and it is believed that the investigation should be pushed to a conclusion. We publish elsewhere an extract from the New York Journal to show how much gossip there is concerning this vessel.

Medical Director David Kindelberger, until recently in charge of the Naval Hospital at Philadelphia, has made some criticisms of the north wing of that institution. He claims that the building cannot be properly heated in winter, and asks that the heating plant be renewed. He also desires a separate building for contagious disease, and a place where may be treated patients who suddenly become mentally affected, or who require treatment for alcoholism. Surg. William H. Rush, on duty at League Island, has renewed his recommendation for a larger and better water supply at the yard, as well as improved drainage.

A bronze statue of "Victory," the gift of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the battleship bearing her name, has been placed on the forward turret of the vessel, now lying at the New York Navy Yard. It is veiled with an American flag, and will not be uncovered until the formal presentation ceremonies takes place. Whether the unveiling will occur at the Navy Yard or await the arrival of the Massachusetts in Boston harbor has not been determined. Naval Constr. Bowles has notified the Governor of Massachusetts that the statue is ready to be unveiled.

In its report on H. R. 9473, making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions for the fiscal year 1898, the Appropriations Committee state that the Navy Pension Fund at present amounts to \$14,000,000, bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, and is created under the provisions of section 4731 and 4752 of the Revised Statutes. The payment on accounts of Navy pensions during the fiscal year 1896 aggregated \$3,588,528.58.

The workmen at the Mare Island Navy Yard have raised a general subscription for a silver pitcher to be presented to the Secretary of the Navy on his retiring from office March 4 next.

The Brooklyn, now at League Island, has received most of her furnishings and stores, and will sail in a few days to join Admiral Bunc's squadron at Hampton Roads. Some finishing touches to her equipment are yet to be made that will consume several days' work, notably her electrical apparatus. A personal letter this week from her commander, Capt. F. A. Cook, expresses his satisfaction with the ship and her detail of officers and crew, and relates an incident which reflects most pleasantly on the relations between the captain and his men. Early in the week one of the engineers, an in-

experienced man, in getting up steam in the starboard engine, was unfortunate enough to cause a general breakage of machinery in the engine room. Capt. Cook, knowing the man to be an intelligent mechanic, ordered him to be supplied with new parts to replace the injury, and directed him to readjust them, with the assistance of a few of the men on board, and in a few days the engine was in perfect condition again and running satisfactorily. The captain was much pleased with the skilled work of the engineer, and the latter will probably hold the captain in life-long esteem for his attitude of kindness and patience under the circumstances.

Representative Barnett, of Massachusetts, on Tuesday introduced bills providing for the construction of a dry dock at the Navy Yard at Boston, and appropriating \$1,500 to substitute an iron fence for the brick wall at the Naval Hospital at Chelsea, Mass. At Boston is one of the four stone dry docks in the country. It is of old design and can receive only the smaller ships. The other stone docks are at Norfolk and Mare Island. The new dry dock at New York, which was to have been completed this month, will not be finished for some time yet. An extension of three months has been granted the contractors.

Fifty of the mechanics employed by Moran Brothers, shipbuilders at Seattle, Wash., are on strike. The men have been employed on two steam steel vessels which the Morans are building for the Navy—a torpedo destroyer and a Government tugboat. Moran Bros. announced on Tuesday evening that on account of the inclement weather work hours for the present would be reduced to seven and a half hours a day. The men said they would strike unless they were given ten hours a day. Their demand was refused, and they went out. Other men will probably be engaged, and the work will not be greatly delayed.

Work on the gunboat Annapolis, which is being constructed at the Nixon yards in Elizabethport, N. J., is being pushed, and it is expected she will be sent from the ways during the second week in January.

VESSELS OF THE U. S. NAVY IN COMMISSION.

(The letters in parentheses following the name of the commanding officer denote the station or service to which the vessel is assigned.)

ADAMS, 6 Guns, Comdr. E. W. Watson (p. a.) At Honolulu. Address care Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. Will be relieved by the Alert and then proceed to Mare Island.

ALBATROSS (F. C. Ves.) Lieut. Comdr. J. F. Moser. (s. d.) Address San Francisco, Cal., to which she is en route from Honolulu.

ALERT, 4 Guns, Comdr. F. Hanford (p. a.) Address all mail care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. En route to Honolulu to relieve the Adams.

ALLIANCE, 7 Guns, Comdr. H. N. Manney. (Training-ship.) En route home from her cruise. Is due at Newport News, Va., any day.

AMPHITRITE, 6 Guns, Capt. W. C. Wise (n. a. s.) At Hampton Roads Dec. 10. Will relieve the Raleigh on the Florida coast. Came out of dry dock Dec. 7 at Navy Yard, Norfolk.

BANCROFT, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. Chas. Belknap, (e. a.) Smyrna. Address care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London. Lieut. Comdr. C. H. Arnold ordered to command per steamer of Dec. 23.

BENNINGTON, 6 Guns, Comdr. H. E. Nichols (p. s.) Ordered to assist the Marion in the survey of Jiquilisco Harbor, Salvador. Sailed from San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 7.

BOSTON, 8 Guns, Capt. Frank Wildes (a. s.) At Chefoo, China.

BROOKLYN, 20 Guns, Capt. F. A. Cook (n. a. s.) At League Island, Pa. After receiving her stores between Dec. 15 and Dec. 20, she will go to Hampton Roads; then to Newport to receive her torpedoes. Afterward the cruiser will go to Tompkinsville, S. I.

CASTINE, 5 Guns, Comdr. R. M. Berry (s. a. s.) At Norfolk, Va. Will return to Montevideo.

CINCINNATI, 11 Guns, Capt. M. L. Johnson (e. a.) At Smyrna.

COLUMBIA, 11 Guns, Capt. J. H. Sands (n. a. s.) At New York Navy Yard.

CONSTITUTION, Comdr. F. W. Dickins (Training-ship.) Newport, R. I. Comdr. John McGowan ordered to command.

CUSHING (Torpedo boat), Lieut. J. C. Fremont (s. d.) At New York, Dec. 7. After suitable trials the Cushing will fill her bunkers with the Acme coal and go to Newport, where the tests with this and the old style of coal will be made. The new coal is supplied by the State Line and Sullivan Railroad, and the officials of that line and of the Lehigh Valley road are interested in the experiments, which may mean considerable to them. S. B. Morris, of the latter road, will accompany the Cushing to Newport to see the tests.

DETROIT, 10 Guns, Comdr. Geo. C. Reiter (a. s.) At Shanghai, China.

DOLPHIN (Desp. boat), (s. d.), Lieut. Comdr. R. Clover. At Washington, D. C.

ENTERPRISE, 6 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. Jos. G. Eaton. (Training-ship.) At Boston, Mass.

ESSEX, 6 Guns, Comdr. E. T. Strong (Training-ship.) At New York Navy Yard for repairs.

FERN (Desp. boat), Lieut. Comdr. H. B. Mansfield (n. a. s.) At New York.

FRANKLIN, 30 Guns, Capt. Silas W. Terry (Receiving-ship.) At Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

FISH HAWK (F. C. Vessel.) Lieut. F. Swift. At New Bedford, Mass.

INDEPENDENCE (Receiving-ship), Capt. Louis Kempff. At Mare Island, Cal.

INDIANA, 16 Guns, Capt. Robley D. Evans (n. a. s.) Sailed Dec. 9 from Tompkinsville, N. Y., for Hampton Roads. Capt. H. C. Taylor ordered to command.

KATAHDIN, Ram, Comdr. R. P. Leary (n. a. s.)

At Navy Yard, N. Y.

LANCASTER, 12 Guns, Capt. Yates Stirling (s. a. s.) (Flagship.) At Montevideo. Address, care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, England.

MACHIAS, 8 Guns, Comdr. M. R. S. Mackenzie (a. s.) At Amoy, China, Dec. 9.

MAINE, 10 Guns, Capt. A. S. Crowninshield (n. a. s.) At New York, off Tompkinsville.

MARBLEHEAD, 10 Guns, Comdr. T. F. Jewell. At New York Navy Yard.

MARION, 8 Guns, Comdr. J. G. Green (p. s.)

At Panama, December 8. Address, care U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C. Will join Bennington in survey of Jiquilisco Harbor, Salvador, proceeding thence to San Francisco.

MASSACHUSETTS, 16 Guns, Capt. Frederick Rogers. (n. a. s.) At New York Navy Yard.

MICHIGAN, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. E. H. C. Leutze. At Erie, Pa., for the winter.

MINNEAPOLIS, 11 Guns, Capt. G. H. Wadleigh (e. s.) Sailed from Jaffa, Dec. 10, for Smyrna.

MONADNOCK, 6 Guns (Monitor), Capt. G. W. Sumner (p. s.) At San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 7.

MONOCACY, 6 Guns, Comdr. O. W. Farenholt (a. s.) At Taku.

MONTEREY, 4 Guns, Capt. C. E. Clark. (p. s.) At San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 7.

MONTGOMERY, 10 Guns, Comdr. R. B. Bradford (n. a. s.) At San Simeon, Cal., Dec. 7.

NEWARK, 18 Guns, Capt. C. M. Chester (n. a. s.) Sailed from the Navy Yard, Norfolk, this week to cruise off the Florida coast. Her postoffice address will be Jacksonville. Was at Key West Dec. 10.

NEW YORK, 18 Guns, Capt. W. S. Schley (n. a. s.) (Flagship.) At New York Navy Yard. To be ready with other vessels of squadron to sail South by Dec. 15.

OLYMPIA, 14 Guns, Capt. J. J. Read (a. s.) (Flagship.) At Nagasaki, Japan.

OREGON, 16 Guns, Capt. H. L. Howison (p. s.) At San Francisco, Cal.

PHILADELPHIA, 12 Guns, Capt. C. S. Cotton (p. s.) Address care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. (Flagship.) On a cruise South as far as Valparaiso.

PINTA, 4 Howitzers, Lieut. Comdr. F. M. Symonds (a. s.) At Sitka, Alaska, where mail should be addressed.

PURITAN (Monitor), 10 Guns, Capt. J. R. Bartlett (n. a. s.) Placed in commission at the New York Navy Yard, Dec. 10.

RALEIGH, 11 Guns, Capt. Merrill Miller (n. a. s.) Off Florida coast watching for Cuban filibusters. Address Key West, Fla.

RICHMOND (Receiving-ship), Lieut. Comdr. C. A. Adams in temporary command. At League Island, Pa.

ST. MARY'S, 8 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. W. L. Field. (Public Marine School) New York. Address, care of Board of Education, New York City.

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Guns, Capt. E. M. Shepard (e. s.) At Smyrna. (Flagship of the squadron.)

SARATOGA, Comdr. C. T. Hutchins (Penn schoolship.) At Philadelphia, Pa. Address Philadelphia, Pa.

STILETTO, torpedo boat, Lieut. H. Hutchins, Newport, R. I.

TERROR, Monitor, Capt. P. F. Harrington (n. a. s.) At New York.

TEXAS, 8 Guns, Capt. Henry Glass (n. a. s.) At New York Navy Yard.

THETIS, 2 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. U. Sebree (s. d.) Off Cape San Lucas, Cal., to make survey of Pacific coast of Mexico. Address San Diego, Cal.

VERMONT, 1 Gun, Capt. Silas Casey (Receiving-ship.) At New York Navy Yard.

WABASH, 20 Guns, Capt. A. Kautz (Receiving-ship.) At Boston, Mass.

YORKTOWN, 6 Guns, Comdr. Chas. H. Stockton (n. a. s.) At Shanghai, China.

YANTIC, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. F. P. Gilmore (a. s. s.) At Montevideo, Uruguay. Lieut. Comdr. J. M. Miller ordered to command per steamer of Dec. 16.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

Orders.—Leave of absence for thirty days granted 2d Asst. Engr. W. L. Maxwell; for 30 days to Charles F. Collin; for 30 days to 2d Lieut. Colin S. Craig; for 10 days to 2d Lieut. A. R. Hasson; for 3 days to 3d Lieut. Randolph Ridgely, Jr.; for 30 days to 2d Lieut. George C. Carmine; for 30 days to 2d Lieut. A. M. Landrey; for 30 days, on account of sickness, to 2d Lieut. W. H. O. Hay, and for 4 days to 2d Lieut. P. H. Uberroth.

Capt. S. E. Maguire has been ordered to the Windom; 1st Lieut. M. G. Rods to special duty on launches at Port Townsend, Wash.; 2d Asst. Engr. D. W. Blake to the Colfax; 2d Lieut. G. L. Carden, relieved from duty with launches at Port Townsend, Wash., and ordered East; 2d Lieut. F. H. Denieck, to proceed to New Orleans to appear before a board of surgeons to be examined for physical fitness for promotion.

2d Lieut. A. R. Hasson has been ordered to the Woodbury; 2d Lieut. G. M. Daniels to the Dalias; 2d Lieut. J. G. Ballinger to the Hamilton; 1st Lieut. D. J. Ainsworth to the Boutwell; 2d Lieut. W. E. M. Hall to the Rush, and 2d Lieut. G. C. Carmine to the Winona.

1st Lieut. H. M. Broadbent, of the Woodbury, has been at the Oxford, Washington, D. C., this week. Capt. J. C. Mitchell was in Washington this week, en route to New York City. 2d Asst. Engr. D. W. Blake stopped in Washington this week on his way to Charleston, S. C. 1st Asst. Engr. W. H. Warren, waiting orders, is at 414 New Jersey avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 1st Lieut. C. H. McLellan is at the Raleigh, Washington, D. C.

Three new revenue cutters will be launched within the next two or three weeks, No. 3 at Philadelphia; the Gresham, at Cleveland, Ohio, and the Golden Gate, at Seattle.

Orders: Capt. John Dennett, detailed as assistant inspector of the 8th Life-Saving District.

Leaves of absence granted 2d Asst. Engr. D. W. Blake, 30 days, and 2d Asst. Engr. R. E. Wright, 30 days.

The commanding officer of the Wolcott has been directed to convey two boats from Port Townsend, Seattle.

A very successful speed trial of the new revenue cutter Gresham was made on Monday of this week at Cleveland, Ohio. The vessel fulfilled every expectation, and attained a speed of 17 knots. Among the revenue officers present were Capt. Russell Glover and Aaron D. Littlefield; Chief Engr. John W. Collins; 2d Lieut. James M. Moore; Asst. Engrs. Charles A. McAllister, Carl M. Green and 2d Asst. Engr. John Q. Walton.

Capt. Lorin N. Stodder was in Washington a few days this week.

Capt. J. B. Moore, of the Life-Saving Service, and Capt. S. E. Maguire, of the Windom, were at the Elliott House, Washington, this week.

Dec. 10.—Nominations of 2d Assistant Engineers: John I. Bryan, of Kentucky; George C. Farkell, of Pennsylvania; Jas. D. Newton, of New York; C. Gadson Porcher, of Virginia; Geo. H. Paul, of Wisconsin; W. J. Sedgwick, of New York; Frank G. Snyder, of New York; John B. Turner, of New York; Walter Taylor, of Florida; Chas. A. Wheeler, of Virginia.

DEC. 10.—1st Lieut. Henry B. Rogers of Massachusetts, to be Captain.

Miss Frances Josephine Felix, daughter of Ambrose Felix, formerly Acting Ensign, U. S. Navy, was married Dec. 9 at the residence of her parents, in New York, to Mr. Lloyd T. Montgomery.

THE STATE TROOPS.

REFORM FOR THE NEW YORK GUARD.

The announcement of the selection by the Governor-elect of the State of New York of ex-Lieut. Charles Whitney Tillinghast, of Troy, as his Adjutant General, settles in a most satisfactory manner the mooted question as to who shall, for the coming two years, fill this important office, and terminates what has been one of the most unfortunate (to put it mildly) campaigns for this position that has been witnessed in recent years. Mr. Tillinghast is a gentleman by birth and education, and as an ex-Lieutenant of the Guard has always had the interests of the force at heart. He is a conservative progressionist, if such an expression can be coined, and the outlook for the next two years is for an intelligent and military administration of the affairs of the Guard. We congratulate Governor-elect Black on his excellent selection, and the N. G. N. Y. on the bright prospect before it.

While this selection is so eminently satisfactory, and the true soldiers in the Guard are encouraged to think that political influence has not been suffered to override true military worth and ability, yet certain very serious thoughts arise in connection with the biennial change in the active head of the Guard. That the system is a most vicious one, all soldiers admit. In the days of the old corn-stalk militia, any system, or no system at all, was sufficient. Each man furnished himself with such arms and equipments as he chose, discipline and military knowledge were unknown, records were not thought to be of sufficient importance to be kept, and all that was expected of the Adjutant General was that he should be a man of wealth and social standing, who could furnish the sinews of war for the Governor's political campaigns, and who was rewarded with the position of Adjutant General, in order that he might write the title "General" before his name, and on official (but more especially on social) occasions bedizen himself in a gorgeous, gold-decked uniform and flourish around, the cynosure of the ladies. In those days, the man mattered nothing, now it is a very different affair. Gradually from the chaos of the old-time militia has been evolved the present highly trained and organized body of citizen soldiers, that we call the National Guard, a magnificent body of enthusiastic, hard-working, intelligent men, who have the interests of the service at heart, and who freely give their time and their money to the development of the force. The officers are, as a general rule, as fine a body of men, and as well educated for their respective positions as is found in any volunteer service in the world. They are ready and willing, and striving by every means in their power, and at no small sacrifice to themselves, to perfect themselves and their men in the art military. To them gold lace and sashes and military titles for social purposes mean much less than nothing, for them shoulder straps and rank are the reward of long and patient toil and sacrifice, and it goes to their heart to see the highest position in the military forces of the State prostituted, by being given to some "tin soldier," as a reward for political work of perhaps the lowest kind, or because he has contributed in an open-handed manner to the campaign fund. It weakens the respect for rank, it weakens the respect the people should have for the Guard, to see an incompetent given the highest military office in the State, and it weakens the interest men feel in the organization, to know that the highest positions are not rewards for honest military work, but for political jobbery. Why should this be so? Why should not the Guard have a permanent military head? As even if the appointment goes, as in the case of Mr. Tillinghast, to a thoroughly competent military man, two years are too brief a time in which to carry out any positive policy, and the constant changing of the military head tends to cause a feeling of insecurity and unrest in the ranks of the Guard. Can this be cured? We think so, and that the solution of the difficulty rests in the appointment of a permanent head, in the shape of a Major General, who shall have full charge and care of the Guard in instruction, discipline and general management.

But we should have it clearly understood that by suggesting this appointment we do in no wise contemplate the establishment of a "Circumlocution Office for the Delay of Public Business," in addition to the present Brigade Headquarters, but the establishment of an active military head to the Guard, who shall have charge of all matters of a purely military nature, such as drill, discipline, instruction, camping, etc., leaving the matters of supplying, feeding, transportation, etc., to the Adjutant General. Indeed, the position of the latter should occupy towards the Governor should be that rather of a Secretary of War than of the military head of the Guard. The general outline of the development of the militia would emanate from the A. G. O., but all matters of purely military detail would be left to the Major General. Of course the question of a proper man for this position would arise at once, and here let us put ourselves on record as believing that the Major General should unquestionably come from the ranks of the Guard, and to our mind preferably from among the Colonels of the line. The time of fuss and feathers has passed, and with it should also pass the drones and "peace generals" of the bygone days of spon-toons and flint-locks. War is a most serious business, and the higher the grade of the officer, the more serious are his responsibilities, the more grave are his duties. We doubt if the ideal commanding officer for the Guard exists to-day, but a man approaching the ideal does exist, and that man can be found by intelligent search. He should be young, active, interested, intelligent, a well-instructed soldier, a gentleman by birth and education, with plenty of spare time, and a love for, and the power of, instruction. He should receive a just compensation, so that he may devote the larger portion of his time to his military duties, and should be retired at some age-limit with a sufficient pension. His staff should be men of the same character, and they should assist him in imparting, each one in his own department, instruction in the theory and practice of the various things with which a soldier should be conversant. No requisitions, nor any of the hundred papers which form the red-tape end of the military life, should come through the Major General's hands, but he should know personally whether each organization of the Guard is properly uniformed, armed and equipped, and if it is not, should order the necessary requisition made, and by his personal recommendations, see that they are properly honored. As we said above, the military end should be the share of the Major General Commanding, the red-tape and supplies that of the A. G. O.

Such is, in brief, the outline of our conception of what is required to obviate the present unfortunate condition of affairs in the military service of the State of New York. The experiment has been tried in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, and is a success, up to a certain point, but we would propose going still further in the same direction than has yet been done, and we feel certain

that the results obtained will more than pay for the increased expense. We commend the idea to the powers that be (and are to be) and renew our good wishes to Mr. Black and his military administration.

69 N. Y. COL. GEO. M. SMITH.

Co. D, 69th Regt., held their usual weekly drill on Wednesday evening, Dec. 2, 1896, under command of Capt. Dowdney. But two officers, four sergeants and eight files answered roll call out of some fifty odd men on the roll, less than 50 per cent. of the members being present. This, to the casual observer would indicate that the company is in a badly demoralized condition. Inquiries divulged the fact that influences, both inside of the company and on the outside are working in a manner that does not conduce to the success of the organization, and this opposition all springs from the fact that Capt. Dowdney put his foot on some of the unruly members of the company who overstayed their leave of absence last summer while the regiment was at State Camp, and enforced discipline in a manner that was something new in Co. D, but which, from all accounts, was very necessary. This event developed two factions in the company, one of which habitually absent themselves from drill, and the other remain loyal to the 69th and to Capt. Dowdney. In justice to the latter element the Captain rids the company of the kickers the better; then the company will recruit up as well as can be expected for any organization to recruit, that is housed in such miserable quarters. There is a foundation there for an excellent company, and surrounded by competent non-commissioned officers and the proper care in selecting recruits, and in the management of the material now in hand, there is no reason why Capt. Dowdney should not have an exceptionally good company, for he is a bright and efficient young officer, and one who would naturally be popular with his men. Col. Smith, in conversation with the writer, spoke very highly of Capt. Dowdney, and said he regarded him as one of the brightest and one of the most reliable officers in the regiment. He also said that he was not in the least concerned about the future of Co. D; in fact, in his judgment he thought it a good thing for the company to get down to the state it is in now, for now they will weed out the dead wood and build upon a very good foundation, and profit by former experiences, and there is no doubt but that the Colonel is right. In regard to the drill, very little adverse criticism can be made. The various movements that were executed were very good, for a company cannot put up a very elaborate drill with but eight files. The manual was very good, still there is room for improvement. The distances and alignment were very well kept, and the men were attentive and steady in the ranks, and looked neat. The wheeling by fours was very good; the march both in line and in column was also very good, and the turns were as good as any one could desire. In changing direction in column of fours, the leading guide, when on the pivot flank of the column, described too large a circle, instead of taking the short steps and allowing that flank to close up to him during the wheel of the leading four, and the result was that in following in the trace of the guide the pivot flank took steps large enough for the marching flank. The rest of the movements were in general executed in a very snappy manner, that gave evidence of proper instruction on part of the Captain and no lack of enthusiasm on part of the men.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF WISCONSIN.

We hope that Gov.-elect Scofield, of Wisconsin will have the good sense to recognize the fact that in Charles King the State has the best Adjutant General known to its history. In a letter to Maj. Scofield, Maj. Charles R. Boardman, of Oshkosh, Wis., an officer of the National Guard, says in a letter to Gen. King: "I have taken this the first opportunity to say that I have written Gov.-elect Scofield about you and have told him you are the best Adjutant General the State has ever had, and several other good things which though good are true. The Republican victory this fall was a great one, and I only hope that the people of the State and of the entire country may be benefited by the result."

In reply, Gen. King said: "Your letter gives me much pleasure, for I value the esteem of my comrades of the guard far more than I can tell you. But it has always been a plank in my soldier platform that military appointments should be based on the individual merit and capacity of the appointee. No soldier can fearlessly do his duty if he owes his office to the appeals of his subordinates or the influence of politicians. Thank me for me and say that while I hope to remain at the head of the guard I will not authorize any one, in or out of it, to petition in my behalf." The Chicago "Times-Herald" of Dec. 5, says: "The appointment of Gen. King by Gov. Upham was in the nature of a personal appointment, as the General and the Governor had been warm friends for years. While it was admitted on all sides that no better choice could have been made from a military standpoint, Gen. King's selection was not pleasing to the politicians, but all their representations could not cause the Governor to swerve from his intentions. During the two years that Gen. King has been at the head of the department the politicians have not had reason to love him more. He has insisted on conducting the office on strict business principles, and while yielding gracefully to the inevitable generally in the matter of appointments in his department has insisted on retaining clerks who were especially fitted for their positions and whose dismissal would be a detriment to the department. It is from this source that the greater part of the opposition to the General's reappointment now comes."

NEW JERSEY.

Lieut. M. W. Rowell, 10th U. S. Cav., on duty with the National Guard of New Jersey, in a report to the Secretary of War concerning the annual camp at Sea Girt, and the guard in general, says: "The appearance throughout the week of the sentinels upon posts was exceptionally clean and military. All sentinels walked their posts properly, wearing the uniforms and equipments and carrying their arms correctly. Throughout the week the camps were quiet and orderly, and in this respect they might well have served as models. The officers and men were zealous in the discharge of their duties and showed a remarkable desire and aptitude to learn. I desire," says the Lieutenant concluding this part of the report, "to acknowledge my appreciation of the courtesies extended by the officers of the brigade, and particularly to commend the interest and patience which the officers and men have on every occasion evinced in the consideration of the many tedious details." He thinks civilians should not have access to all parts of the camp; that regimental and company officers should mess at the same table and upon the same fare as the men, and that bootblacking stands should be set up where the

men could get a free shine. The lieutenant suggests that the appearance of some of the men who reported at guard mounting last summer would have been improved by a whisker cut, a shave and a clean collar."

In concluding his report he says:—"The presence in the guard of officers of eminent ability and integrity who have had practical experience in warfare or long experience in the service of the State is of inestimable value in perpetuating a more soldierly spirit among the subordinate officers and men. In each brigade I have noticed the spirit of an earnest, manly performance of duty, coupled with a respect for proper authority. With this spirit there can be no fear, should need arise, that the National Guard to-day will fail to maintain the glorious record made by the volunteers of New Jersey in the past."

We are pleased to find after investigation that the story that Co. L., 1st Regt., of New Jersey, had torn down a Spanish flag from the decorations of their armory did a gross injustice to Capt. Reiser and his men. What really did happen was that Co. L. gave a ball in its armory. Before the formal opening of the event, Capt. Reiser and three members of the committee of arrangements, went over the drill hall to examine the decorations, and see that the general arrangements were in proper shape. Over the main stairway, it was noticed, was a large piece of bunting, resembling a Spanish flag, very much the worse for wear—in fact, it was quite dilapidated and dirty, in comparison with the other bright decorations, and, furthermore, it partly hid a large national flag near by. The Captain decided it had better come down and be replaced by something else. Another national flag was procured and the dirty piece of bunting was taken down (not torn down) and the new bunting put in its place. Capt. Reiser, we find, did not make any speech to his company against the flag of Spain, and this allegation, as well as the others, had their origin in a liquor saloon, where the imaginative reporter, who furnished the story, to the dailies, got the tip. Now that we are able to present the true facts of the case, it will be seen that Co. L. does not deserve the censure it has received, and we are glad to find that the discipline of the 1st Regt., under Col. Campbell, is all right, and that it has been in no way impaired. The Colonel is an officer of long military experience, dating back to 1863, and would be the first to resent any infringement of military discipline.

13th NEW YORK.—COL. WATSON.

Col. Watson, of the 13th Regiment, in announcing the result of rifle practice in his command in the armory range the past season says: "Too great praise cannot be given to the officers and enlisted men of those companies, whose superiority in this most important field is shown by the Inspector's report. The lack of system, as well as interest, on the part of those responsible for instruction, in the low standing companies, is very apparent." Col. Watson states that he trusts that the result of this season's work will be more generally satisfactory and in keeping with the great advantages at the command of the regiment. The Armory records are as follows:

Company.	Roll at close of practice.	Number practicing during season.	Per cent.	Number of men qualified.	Per cent.
A	51	40	79	25	49
B	51	41	80	23	45
C	52	36	69	15	29
D	61	51	84	33	54
E	42	33	78½	17	40
F	52	43	83	32	62
G	63	63	100	41	65
H	36	16	44	6	17
I	62	34	55	11	18
K	69	47	68	31	45

The order of merit of the several companies in practice stands as follows: G, D, F, B, A, E, C, K, I, and H. In qualification they stand, G, F, D, A, B, K, E, C, I, and H.

IMPROPER USE OF ARMORIES.

The following communication relative to the improper use of armories has been sent to commanding officers in the 2d Brigade, New York, by Gen. James McLeer, under date of Dec. 3, 1896:

"To Commanding Officers of Organizations:

"It has come to the knowledge of the brigade commander that some of the armories are being used for purposes other than that prescribed in regulations, part I., paragraph 258, and it seems only necessary to call the attention of commanding officers to the matter, in order to prevent a continuance of this unwise and illegal use of the property liberally provided by a generous people for our use, comfort and convenience as soldiers of the National Guard. The words 'under the auspices of' are too transparent, and may be construed as an intentional infraction of the law. There appears to be no objection to an occasional social assembly of the members of a company of regiment and their friends at an armory, provided always, that it does not interfere with military duties, but forming a co-partnership with an organization which is in no manner whatever connected with the National Guard, and arranging for a ball or exhibition at an armory, with the understanding that such society or organization shall jointly participate in the profits from the sale of tickets, is not only wrong, but is a violation of the law and a perversion of property intrusted to our care for a better purpose."

MINNESOTA.

Adj. Gen. Muehlburg, of Minnesota, in his biennial report ending July 31, 1896, states that the aggregate strength of the guard is 2,134. One hundred and sixty new Springfield rifles have been drawn from the Secretary of War since last report. Gen. Muehlburg notes a great improvement in rifle practice, but believes it would be a great deal larger if range facilities were better. He commends the inspecting officer very highly on the work he has done for the guard. Twelve silver medals for 15 years' faithful service, and 36 bronze medals for 10 years' faithful service, have been awarded. It is recommended that recruiting be discontinued one month prior to inspection and also the same length of time before going to camp. The percentage of attendance at camp was: 1st Regt., 64.26; 2d Regt., 63.49; 3d Regt., 67.99, and the artillery, 81.74. Battery B had the highest percentage at inspection in the State, scoring 98.63.

The 3d Regt., of Minnesota, contemplates a trip to Yellowstone Park next summer, in lieu of its usual week in camp at Lakeview. Co. D, of St. Paul, Capt. Bean, made a most successful trip to the park some years ago, but this will be the first time that an entire regiment has left the State on such an excursion.

The conditions of the trip are as follows: That each company furnish 50 men, or more, who will pay \$10 each (or as near 50 men as possible), and money can be drawn from the State that the command would be entitled to for ten days' camp and the allowance for the cost of transportation to and from Lake City. The cost will be about as follows:

Transportation, 400 men	\$8,000
Subsistence	2,500
Horses and transportation in Park	250
Fuel and extra supplies	250
Total	\$11,000
Estimated Resources:	
State of Minnesota	\$7,000
Eight companies, \$500 each	4,000
Field staff and N. C. staff	150
Total	\$11,150

This must be in the hands of the company commanders before any definite action can be taken, or it must be pledged in such a way as will assure it. Two weeks will be required to make the trip. The marches will be made early in the day, and only short ones at that, so that ample opportunity will be given the men to see the wonderful sights, and for fishing, etc.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Col. Thomas R. Mathews, 1st Inf., of Massachusetts, in his report of his regiment's tour of duty at Fort Warren the past summer, says: "The time has now arrived when a well-defined policy relative to the future course of instruction of the regiment in heavy artillery should be formulated.

"Considering the limited time officers and men under the most favorable conditions can give to military study and drill, it would seem wise to have them devote all their energies to the study of heavy artillery. It is not possible under the conditions that necessarily prevail in the militia for officers and men of the State force ever to acquire that thorough knowledge of modern military science that obtains in the artillery arm of regular service; time, opportunity and lack of equipment preventing.

"In the present changed and ever changing condition of modern warfare with the defenseless condition of our seacoast, both in fortification, armament and garrison; with the commercial center of our State at the mercy of an enemy's fleet ever in mind, it would seem as though the time had arrived when all seaboard States should not depend solely on the United States Government for protection in case of need, but place themselves in a position to protect in some degree the vital commercial interest of their vulnerable seaboard frontier.

"With this in view, I would respectfully suggest that the 1st Infantry be changed by an amendment of the present militia law to a heavy artillery regiment, for coast defense, equipped, uniformed and instructed as such. If this change can be made I feel, with the present and increasing interest in the study of heavy artillery, the regiment I now command could in a short time be made efficient as an artillery organization, qualified to garrison the defenses of Boston harbor should such a necessity arise.

"In closing this report, I desire to express the great personal obligation I am under to Lieut. Col. C. A. Woodruff, Lieut. E. M. Weaver and all the officers stationed at Fort Warren for their advice, counsel and assistance. A large measure of the success of this tour of duty is owing to their hearty co-operation."

The following are the appointments on the staff of Gov.-elect Wolcott's staff of Massachusetts, which will give general satisfaction to the guardsmen of that State: Maj. Gen. Samuel Dalton, Adjutant General; Brig. Gen. Robert A. Blood, Surgeon General; Brig. Gen. Frances H. Appleton, Commissary General; Brig. Gen. Rockwood Hoar, Judge Advocate General; Brig. Gen. Curtis Guild, Jr., Inspector General of the Rifle Practice; Col. James L. Carter, Assistant Inspector General; Col. J. Payson Bradley, Assistant Adjutant General; Col. John D. Billings, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Edward B. Robins, Assistant Adjutant General; Col. Fred W. Wellington, Assistant Inspector General; Col. William C. Capelle, Assistant Adjutant General; Col. Frederick G. King, Assistant Inspector General; Col. Richard D. Sears, Assistant Adjutant General; Col. James T. Souter, Assistant Inspector General; Col. Frank L. Locke, Assistant Inspector General; Col. Gordon Dexter, Assistant

Quartermaster General; Col. Richard Morgan, Assistant Inspector General; Col. Harry E. Converse, Assistant Quartermaster General; Col. James A. Frye, Assistant Inspector General of Rifle Practice; Col. Roger Morgan, Assistant Quartermaster General; Col. William D. Sohier, Aide-de-Camp; Col. George R. Jewett, Aide-de-Camp; Col. Frank B. Stevens, Aide-de-Camp.

5th NEW YORK—COL. W. SEWARD.

Pvt. William O'Keefe, of Co. K, 9th New York, who was convicted of assaulting Capt. Morris at the armory on the night of Oct. 17, was arraigned before Judge Fitzgerald on Dec. 7 for sentence. On the pleading of Capt. Morris, however, sentence was suspended, and the Judge told O'Keefe that but for this fact he would have sentenced him for five years. Judge Fitzgerald also in the course of his remarks, said: "The conviction of O'Keefe entails considerable disgrace upon him. He loses his position in the National Guard, and he has suffered some imprisonment. Capt. Morris has seen me, and makes a strong appeal for clemency. It is rarely that an occurrence of this kind happens in the National Guard. The National Guard is something in which the State and country undoubtedly take very great pride. The man who wears the uniform of a body of that kind has a responsibility upon him, and should have a high sense of honor. On this occasion the defendant momentarily forgot that, and I hope this experience will teach him a lesson to control his temper. He should feel under a deep obligation to Capt. Morris, whose strong appeal for clemency has prompted me to discharge the defendant under a suspended sentence."

In the second session of the court martial in the case of Pvt. Joseph Woods, of Co. H, 9th New York, charged with insubordination conduct, the defense introduced a number of witnesses who stated they did not hear Woods utter any disrespectful language, but, at the same time, they showed so much aptitude in "not remembering" certain details that it seemed almost impossible they could have forgot, that the court intimated some of them might get themselves in trouble if they purposely persisted in the convenient lapse of memory. Counsel for the defense repeatedly tried to scare the court with objections and protests, but the court, represented by Capt. Morris, was not to be bulldozed, and was upheld with a dignity that some of the civil justices could take pattern after. The next session will be held on Dec. 18.

CONNECTICUT.

Gov.-elect Cooke, of Connecticut, has announced his staff as follows: Adjutant, George Haven, of New London; Quartermaster General, Louis K. Van Keuren, of Bridgeport; Commissary General, Albert P. Day, of Hartford; Paymaster General, George E. Keeny, of Somers; Judge Advocate General, John F. Carpenter, of Putnam; Aides, James B. Houston, of Enfield; Clayton H. Case, of Hartford; Charles W. Pickett, of New Haven, and Charles E. Turner, of Waterbury.

Gen. Haven, has appointed Col. William E. F. Landers, A. A. G. of the State. Col. Landers has held the position the last two years under Adj't. Gen. Graham, and has conducted the office with marked efficiency. He has served fifteen years in the Connecticut N. G., rising from the ranks to the position of Major of the 3d Regt. Later he was Assistant Adjutant General of brigade under Gen. George Haven, and was promoted to Assistant Adjutant General of the State. Col. Henry C. Morgan has been appointed Assistant Q. M. General. Col. Morgan has served in this office for two terms before. He is a retired officer of the regular Army, having lost a leg in the service. He holds the brevet rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Army. G.

OHIO.

The 8th Regt. of Infantry and Troop A, O. N. G., have been selected by President-elect McKinley to act as escort to and at Washington during Inauguration ceremonies. At a meeting of the officers of the two organizations at Canton, O., Dec. 4, it was decided to concentrate at Canton on March 2 and accompany the President-elect to Washington. Troop A has had a continuous organization since 1877; it numbers 104 officers and men. In preparation for this trip they have purchased eighty black horses and have ordered new uniforms. The 8th Regt. Inf. was organized in 1867. It consists of twelve companies, three companies, signal corps and

hospital corps at Canton; band and one company at Akron, and single companies at Alliance, East Liverpool, Wadsworth, Bucyrus, Polk, Wooster, Shreve and Mansfield. By order companies of infantry in Ohio are limited to sixty officers and men. The regiment expects to turn out 100 per cent. at Washington. During the past ten years the regiment has not failed to turn out for active duty and annual camp less than 90 per cent. Col. George R. Gyger, the C. O. of the 8th, has served thirty years continuously as a member of the National Guard; ten years past being the Colonel of the regiment. Col. Gyger held the rank of Captain in the War of the Rebellion. Lieut. E. M. Johnson, Q. M. 19th Inf., U. S. A., while on college duty at Alliance, O., acted as Regimental Adjutant for three years and through his earnest work brought the regiment up to a high state of efficiency which it has since maintained. Competent critics in the regular Army claim for it the honor of the best National Guard regiment in the United States.

In a recent competitive examination in the Cincinnati Cavalry Troop seven members competed in an examination conducted by Lieut. M. D. Parker, U. S. A., for the title of Lieutenant, sergeant and corporal. E. O. Dana secured the appointment of Lieutenant, and Paul A. Milliken will probably be selected sergeant and C. G. Howe corporal. The examination consisted of a test of knowledge of cavalry drill regulations, mounting and dismounting. The following civil officers have just been elected: E. O. Dana, president; Charles Andrew, vice-president; W. G. Kittredge, secretary and treasurer; M. G. Parker, Lieut. in the U. S. Army, is also Captain of the troop. On Nov. 30 Capt. Parker received a telegram from the War Department at Washington, revoking the order requiring him to report at once for recruiting duty at Albany, N. Y. This was the result of nearly twenty telegrams from Attorney Kittredge, Congressman Berry, Congressman Bromwell, Charles P. Taft and other gentlemen belonging to the Chamber of Commerce, Cincinnati Troop, Riding Club, etc., which were sent to Washington immediately after the order of removal was made known. Lieut. Parker is very popular in Cincinnati, and has proved himself a valuable instructor.

NATIONAL GUARD ITEMS.

The entire National Guard of New Jersey, it is expected, will visit Washington on March 4 to act as escort to Vice-President-elect Hobart in the inaugural procession.

The Medical Department of New York is gradually receiving the improved equipment which it has so long required. New litters have been distributed to the various hospital corps, of the military organization, and a Medical and Surgical Chest, has also been perfected for each organization, and will shortly be distributed. An ambulance for each brigade, as well as for the State camp, has also been purchased.

A feature of the joint bicycle tournament of Co. F, 13th New York, and the Liberty Wheelmen at the armory, Dec. 19, will be a military team race in heavy marching order, one and a half miles, with pack, rifles and field equipments, open to any company in the National Guard, in teams of three. The prize will be a silver cup. There will be a concert by Kirchner's Regimental Band. Lieut. Col. Charles H. Luscomb has agreed to act as referee.

The 14th New York Athletic Association will hold athletic games in the armory on the evening of January 23 next. One of the star attractions will be a tug-of-war between teams from the 14th and 23d Regiments.

The first regimental review and reception of the 13th New York of this season will be held in the armory on Wednesday evening, Dec. 30. The Non-Commissioned Officers' Association has decided to hold their annual full-dress reception on Monday evening Feb. 23, next. The following officers of the association have been elected: President, 1st Sergt. William S. Gendar; vice-president, Q. M. Sergt. Thomas S. Flemming; treasurer, 1st Sergt. F. R. Post, and secretary, Sergt. Frank E. Case.

The 23d New York will hold a review in its armory by Lieut. Gov.-elect Woodruff on Dec. 15.

The board of officers of the 8th New York has decided not to allow extra pay to the drummers and fifers above that to which they are entitled as regularly enlisted men. Heretofore members of the drum corps have received \$2 each for attending drills, \$3 for street parades, and \$3 a day when on duty at State Camp. Hereafter the enlisted drummers and fifers will have to serve without pay at all drills, ceremonies, and parades, except when ordered out on State duty as in case of a riot. Then they will get \$1.25 each a day as do any enlisted privates. This will also be their pay at State Camp.

Maj. Gen. James, of the California National Guard,



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has appointed Mr. Frank W. Sumner, formerly Paymaster General on Gov. Markham's staff, Division Inspector.

2d Lieut. Heidsman, of Co. C, 71st New York, was elected 1st Lieutenant on Dec. 8. He received 32 ballots against 20 for ex-Sergt. E. M. Francis. Lieut. Heidsman has been a hard worker for the interests of the company, and his election, it is expected, will end the dissatisfaction which has existed among a number of the members for some time. The vote shows that Capt. Zabriskie is sustained in discharging his ex-1st Sergeant, which action originated the dissatisfaction.

Capt. Clayton, of Troop C, 2d Brigade, New York, has appointed ex-Sergt. Frank McCue, of Troop F, 3d U. S. Cav., as Armorer of the troop. He has a thorough knowledge of horses, and his appointment will be beneficial to the cavalrymen.

A startling case of suicide in the armory of the 18th Regiment of Pittsburg, Pa., occurred on the evening of Dec. 4, when Lieut. W. Jenkinson, of Co. A, shot himself with Springfield rifle. The first intimation of the tragedy occurred when the janitor of the armory heard a loud report in the company room, and with others in the armory they entered and found the Lieutenant on the floor with a Springfield rifle clutched in his left hand, and in the other hand he held a window strip about 3½ feet long, with which it is supposed he pushed the trigger of the rifle to explode it. The bullet, it was found on examination, had passed through his body entering the heart. On a small table in the room was found a partly folded note, requesting that a number of people be notified. No particular motive is known as to the reason for the suicide, and Mr. Jenkinson was apparently in the best of spirits up to the time of the shooting. He was a general favorite, and was prosperous in business and had the utmost confidence of his employers.

The programme of the athletic games of the 71st Regiment, New York, to be held in the armory Jan. 23, is as follows: 65-yard dash, 440 yards to be run in heats; championship of the regiment; 50-yard sack race; 2-mile bicycle race; 220-yard hurdle race; 1-mile run; 3-egg race; 220-yard run; ½-mile run; bayonet race; 3-mile bicycle race; relay race, 2 laps per man; obstacle race, 2 laps. Field events, high jump; 16-pound shot.

Major John McCrudden has been re-elected Major of the 2d Battalion of the 2d Regiment of Rhode Island.

The State of New York special prizes for marksmanship in the National Guard, competed for at Creedmoor during the past summer, have recently been selected from Tiffany & Co.'s art rooms, and just shipped to their destination by that firm. The special State prize has always been a source of great rivalry in the State, and of recent years, particularly so between the 12th Regiment of New York City, and the 7th and 23d. The latter won it for ten consecutive years previous to 1893. They also captured it last year; but this year, as in 1894, it has gone to the 12th. The prize selected for them is a superb Wattenu group in bronze by A. Gaudenz. Two bronze stands, thirty-three inches high, and pictures the artist studying one of his favorite subjects, a beautiful young woman, posing gracefully at his side. The 1st Brigade prize, a fine bronze of a "regular" in ambush, with his musket ready for action, was won by the 7th Regiment. The bronze stands twenty-five inches high, and will prove an artistic and appropriate acquisition to their large collection of bronze trophies. The winners of the 2d, 3d, and 4th Brigade prizes ex-

pressed their preference for clocks, and to each Tiffany & Co. shipped one of their handsomest patterns of oak hall clocks. The clocks strike both hourly and half-hourly, and the gilt and silvered dials show the phases of the moon. The 2d Brigade prize was won by the 23d Regiment, Brooklyn. The 3d Brigade prize by the 20th Separate Company, of Binghamton, N. Y., and the 4th Brigade prize to the 13th Separate Company, of Jamestown, N. Y.

There is general regret in the New York National Guard that Instr. Gen. F. C. McLevee was not retained on the staff of Gov.-elect Black. Gen. McLevee has performed the duties of his office with the utmost honor and efficiency, and has proved himself to be one of the most practical officers, and one who understands thoroughly the needs and organization of the National Guard. The entire service will remember Gen. McLevee with the greatest respect and kindliest feelings.

It is taken for granted that Col. Frederick Phisterer, who has so ably filled the duties of Assistant Adjutant General, will be retained. Col. Phisterer is an officer of wide experience, dating back to Dec. 6, 1855, when he enlisted in the U. S. Army as a private, serving in successive grades until August, 1870, when he was honorably discharged. He has been in the service of the New York National Guard since Jan. 1, 1880.

Brig. Gen. Mumford, Instr. Gen. on the staff of Gov. Lowndes, of Maryland, made the annual inspection of the Maryland Naval Militia Dec. 3 on board the Dale. A careful examination was made of all arms and every department of the ship, the exercises ending with an artillery drill. Comdr. Emerson and Lieut. Comdr. Greer, of the Naval Militia, Lieut. J. J. Bladin, commanding the Coast Survey steamer Endeavor, Lieut. I. K. Seymour, and Ensign Charles A. Brand, also of the Endeavor, and Lieut. Comdr. William H. Ewing, of the Pennsylvania Naval Militia, accompanied Gen. Mumford on his tour of inspection. He expressed himself as very favorably impressed with the efficiency of the Naval Militia and with the general regard for all details necessary in such an organization.

In Squadron A, of New York, Mr. F. R. Couder, Jr., has been elected 1st Lieutenant in Troop 2; Troop 1 is making arrangements to hold an entertainment. The commissioned and non-commissioned officers of Troop 3, recently organized, include the following: Capt. L. G. Reed, 1st Lieut. H. Barry, 2d Lieut. P. C. Sus, 1st Sergt. J. S. Freylinghuyzen, Q. M. Sergt. F. P. Bowne, Sergts. E. L. Patterson and J. H. Hammond. Other non-commissioned officers are: J. A. Thorne, A. D. Sheppard, Jr., M. Leale and J. T. Davis, Jr. The new troop will drill by platoon on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Maj. Roe has appointed T. B. Guilford, Jr., color bearer of the squadron, vice Patterson, transferred.

Co. A, 7th Regt., New York, will hold an election for 2d Lieutenant on Dec. 18, which will probably result in the election of 1st Sergt. Schasty.

Co. B, 71st Regt., New York, have elected W. S. Beckman 1st Lieutenant, in place of Brandes, resigned.

The Executive Committee of the National Guard Association of New York have decided to introduce a measure making provision for the prosecution of all violations of the military code relative to the wearing of the insignia of National Guard Associations by bicycle clubs, so called independent organizations, etc., and it is intended to have a fund set aside for the prosecution of parties violating the law in question. This is a step in the right direction.

An application has been sent to the Adjutant General's Office for a pension for the family of Pvt. E. Lott, of Co. F, 14th N. Y., who is in the last stages of consumption, contracted from exposure while on duty during the strike of motormen in Brooklyn in the winter of 1895.

An election by the Board of Officers of the 12th Regiment, New York, to fill the vacancy of Lieutenant Colonel, vice McCoskey Butt, recently elected Colonel, was held Dec. 9. Col. Butt presided. Maj. Robert Woodward Leonard was unanimously elected.

The staff of the new Governor of Connecticut had a meeting at Heublein's Hotel, Hartford, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, for the purpose of organizing and making preparations for the inauguration of the Governor, which takes place Jan. 6. The contract for the uniforms was given to the Boylston Manufacturing Company, the equipments going to Ridabock & Co., both well known and long-established firms in New York City. The above mentioned firms have made the uniforms for the different staffs for the last fifteen years.

NAVAL MILITIA.

By invitation of Comdr. J. W. Miller, of the 1st Naval Battalion, New York, a reception was given on Tuesday evening, Dec. 9, to the 2d Battalion of Brooklyn, Comdr. Church, on board the U. S. S. New Hampshire, lying at the foot of East Twenty-eighth street. The New Hampshire was lighted and beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Several divisions of the 1st Battalion were put through drills for the benefit of the visitors, which included infantry, signalling, gun drills, etc. As an exhibition it was not up to the standard. There was too much talking in the ranks, and officers explaining almost every command before giving it at an exhibition seems out of place. Quite a number of the men appeared poorly set up and while "tars" are not supposed to observe the steadiness of land forces in the ranks, the steadiness could be improved, especially as the good old ship New Hampshire, did not roll very much in her snug berth alongside her dock. An inspection of the ship was made which found it in thorough order. Supper was served, after which there was dancing. The affair was a very pleasant one, although the vessel was a little overcrowded with the interested guests.

LEADVILLE'S DETERMINED STRIKE.

"Harper's Weekly" for Dec. 12 publishes an article on the work of the Colorado National Guard in connection with the prolonged strike at Denver. It is accompanied by nine excellent illustrations, the largest of them by Fredk. Remington. The "Weekly" says:

"Since Sept. 21 it has cost the State of Colorado fully \$1,000 a day to preserve the peace in Leadville. About 2,000 miners have been on strike there since June 19 last, seeking an increase in wages. It has a strike that has tested the value of the militia in campaigning under severe climatic conditions, and it has proved that the National Guard of Colorado, like the National Guard of many other States, does not consist of mere holiday soldiers. The camp is pitched at an altitude of 11,000 feet above the sea level, and already the citizen soldiers have felt the rigors of deep snow and intense cold, experiences

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such as probably no other National Guardsmen have passed through in military duty. This strike has also been peculiar in that, after the soldiers had been called out, there was little desire on the part of the strikers to destroy property, as has been the case too frequently in determined conflicts between capital and labor in this country. Five men were killed before the soldiers came, but since then the strikers have proclaimed that it is to their interest to see that the mine properties are not injured. For the first time in recent years in this country, in such a contest there has been little hostile feeling between the militia and the strikers. The strikers have not openly resented the presence of the soldiers by especial acts of violence; and the soldiers, on their part, have performed the arduous duties that have fallen to them with commendable cheerfulness and patience.

From the very first the strikers counted on the assistance of nature to help them in their fight. In respect to the assistance from the flooding of the mines and from the inability of miners from other States to work effectively in the mines, the plans of the strikers seem to have been only partly successful; in respect to the inability of the militia to withstand the weather, they have been completely in error thus far. The great test as to whether citizen soldiers could endure winter campaigning at an altitude of 11,000 feet came on the night of Nov. 10. It became bitterly cold during the early evening. About midnight a fierce snowstorm came. It snowed great damp flakes instead of the fine gritty snow that usually falls there. Soon the sentries found it difficult to walk their posts. Finally they were driven to seek shelter. When reveille was blown at 6 o'clock in the morning, the entire camp awoke to find itself snowed in to the depth of two feet. Heads were thrust out of the 140 tents in which the men had been sleeping in groups of from four to ten, and then there began a shaking of canvas walls as if an earthquake were in progress. The snow fell to the ground in miniature

avalanches. What remained on the tents was soon melted by the heat from the stoves inside. Pools of water formed in every tent, and the condition of the soldiers was very uncomfortable. They dressed hastily, and, military discipline being relaxed a little, they broke paths to the mess tent in the grand stand of the baseball grounds, where Camp McIntire, named after the Governor of the State, was situated. They broke paths to the post of the sentries and to the officers' quarters.

Then the call to breakfast was sounded. It was a miserable meal. The melted snow dripped through the leaky shelter and the cold wind chilled the men, who had to stand in pools of water or to sit on damp boards. After breakfast military routine was suspended, and all hands turned out to clear up the camp. The main street was attacked first. In a short time it began to look like a thoroughfare once more. Big boxes were made into carts, and young men who had never associated military duty with street cleaning prided themselves on their work, and humorously declared that they did not fear comparisons with Col. Waring's 'angels.' By noon the camp was clear. The vigorous work of the morning had put a glow on the faces of the men and a spirit of fun in their hearts, and with one accord officers and men joined in a snowball fight that lasted for nearly half an hour, and satisfied the desire for combat latent in the men. Casualties in the shape of blackened eyes were numerous. In the afternoon military routine was resumed.

It is doubtful if at any time during the civil war soldiers had to pass through such an experience with cold and snow as these members of Colorado's National Guard went through for a few days. It resembled duty at Valley Forge, except that clothing and food were not scarce at Camp McIntire. It showed that military service in time of comparative peace is no play in Colorado. Most of the members of the National Guard there belong to wealthy families, and most of them live in the cities and towns in the valleys. They were hurried to the front without adequate clothing, for duty at an altitude

of over two miles, and it became necessary for the State to purchase large quantities of clothing for their protection. The supply was not sufficient for the hurried demand, and for a time it was a common sight to see sentries exchange coats and rubbers when new guards were posted.

Difficult and exhaustive as the duty has been, the spirit of cheerfulness that the men have shown has been remarkable. There has been little illness in the camp, owing to the precautions of the officers in charge. When any soldier has shown signs of a cold, he has been sent at once to the hospital, so as to guard against pneumonia. All sorts of diversions have been adopted for amusement. There have been mock auctions, amateur theatricals, concerts, games and humorous parades. For the fun there was in it, all story telling was barred. This was because the men had a song which could be used effectively only when a man began to tell some yarn. At the very first indication that some one was about to tell a story, a great volume of song would interrupt him:

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It sounds to me like a lie."
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MONTGOMERY—FELIX.—At the residence of the bride's parents, 289 Amsterdam avenue, New York City, Dec. 9, 1896, Mr. Lloyd T. Montgomery to Miss Frances Josephine Felix, daughter of Mr. Ambrose Felix, formerly Acting Ensign, U. S. N.

ROGERS—GREEN.—At Fort Atkinson, Wis., Nov. 26, 1896, Mr. Ellis E. Rogers to Miss Mary Green, sister of Lieut. James O. Green, 25th U. S. Inf.

DIED.

WILDRICK.—At Blairstown, N. J., Dec. 8, 1896, Mrs. Marion White Wildrick, widow of Col. A. C. Wildrick, U. S. A.

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RECENT DEATHS.

Nathan T. Webb, over 100 years of age, who was water boy to a regiment in the war of 1812, and who served during the war of 1861-65 in a New York regiment, died Dec. 8, in New York.

Mrs. Marion White, widow of Col. A. C. Wildrick, U. S. A., died Dec. 8, at Blairstown, N. J., where she had resided for some time past. She leaves four sons. Mrs. Wildrick was a lady of high intellect and fond of literary work.

Maj. Robert M. Morris, U. S. A., retired, died suddenly in Washington, D. C., Dec. 7. Maj. Morris, who was a native of Washington, entered the Military Academy in 1841. He was made 2d Lieutenant of mounted rifles May 27, 1846, and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant June 8, 1848, to Captain in 1858, to Major of the 6th Cavalry, March 11, 1863, and was retired Feb. 21, 1873, under the act of Aug. 3, 1861, for disability not incident to the service. Maj. Morris served in the Mexican War and in the War of the Rebellion, and was four times brevetted; as 1st Lieutenant, Aug. 20, 1847, for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Contreras; as Captain, Sept. 13, of the same year, for gallantry at the battle of Chapultepec. On Feb. 21, 1862, he was brevetted Major for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Valverde, and Lieutenant Colonel March 31, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Dinwiddie Court House, Va.

"There is no class of Government employees," said President Grant, in an annual message, "who are harder worked than the Army, officers and men; none who perform their tasks more cheerfully and efficiently, and under circumstances of greater privations and hardships."

The fourteenth annual meeting of the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution took place Dec. 3 at Delmonico's, the occasion being the one hundred and thirteenth anniversary of the departure of the last of the British war vessels from the port of New York.

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THE EFFICACY OF A COUNTERSIGN.

(From "Harper's Round Table.")

While Col. Gillan, with the Middle Tennessee regiment, was occupying Nashville during the late war, he stationed sentries and patrols in all the principal streets of the city. One day an Irishman who had not been enlisted was put on duty at a prominent crossing, and he kept a sharp and faithful watch. Presently a man came along.

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"A citizen," was the response.

"Advance and give the countersign."

"I have not the countersign," replied the indignant man, "and the demand for it at this time and place is unusual."

"Well, begorrah! ye don't pass this way until ye say Baker Hill."

The citizen, appreciating the situation, smiled and added to the sentry, and cautiously whispered the magic words.

"Right! Pass on!" and the wide-awake sentinel removed his beat.

THE BRITISH MINISTER'S HEARSE.

It is one of the stock Washington stories, but it is many moons since it has been in print. It is "vouched for" as a perfectly true episode in the career of Mr. Stratford Canning, Minister to our country in the 20s. He was the famous Prime Minister Canning's cousin, and afterward won the title of Viscount Stratford de Balfour.

On a raging, pouring January night the British Minister was about stepping into his carriage for a State dinner at the White House when the axle-tree snapped a match.

There was no time to lose, and away trotted the coachman with the horses to the nearest livery stable withers to return at once with any kind of a vehicle. The coachman had sent out everything he had on wheels—riages being in demand that night—except his hearse. It did not take long for the coachman to make up

his mind, so the horses were clapped to the hearse, and in five minutes it dashed up to the Minister's door. There he stood, watch in hand, waiting in agony for a vehicle, and when the hearse rattled up he stepped, with a sigh of relief, and lying down flat on his back, was bowled along at a slashing gait to the White House.

When the hearse rolled up to the door, naturally it made a sensation, which was increased when a live man crawled out of it.

The climax came after the dinner was over, when the departing guests were assembled in the White House lobby. The carriages were called in a stentorian voice: "The Secretary of State's carriage! The Secretary of War's carriage! The Attorney-General's carriage! The British Minister's hearse!" And up rumbled the hearse, and in climbed the Minister, and off fared the equipage, the Minister lying on his back with British calmness.—Illustrated America.

In all the talk that is going around just now about harbor defenses and fortifications, nothing has been said about possibly the best old-fashioned fortress in the city, a building better adapted to repel a mob and stand heavy ordnance than any of the armories. This is the Sub-Treasury Building on Wall street, where millions of dollars are stored. Not a stick of wood was put into this structure when it was erected fifty years ago. Its walls are of granite, eight feet thick, and its floors are marble and steel. The interior walls are of iron and stone, and the arches and ceiling are of solid masonry. The roof is of granite, and it was asserted at the time that it was constructed that it was so delicately curved that it would deflect, without damage to itself, the heaviest projectile that could be thrown from any battleship then afloat. It has been said that it could stand a modern assault with less damage than even the Treasury Building in Washington. The granite roof is studded with armored turrets strong enough to withstand a hailstorm of bullets. The walls of these turrets are pierced with portholes, some of them being just large enough to hold the muzzle of a rifle, and others big enough to hold the muzzle of a gatling gun. On the third floor of the building there is a small arsenal of repeating rifles and rapid-fire guns and hand grenades. Should the building be entered by an enemy it is so divided that each room could be made a separate fortress.—New York Sun.

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